

APRIL 16, 1881

THE GRAPHIC

ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

No. 594.—Vol. XXIII.

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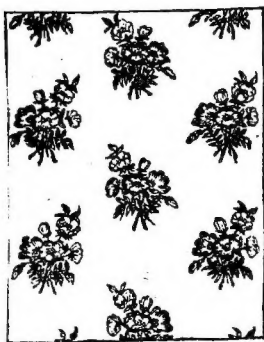
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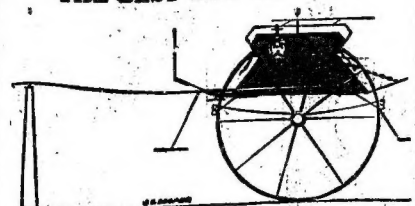
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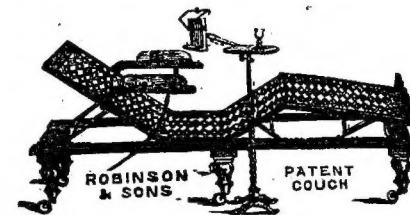
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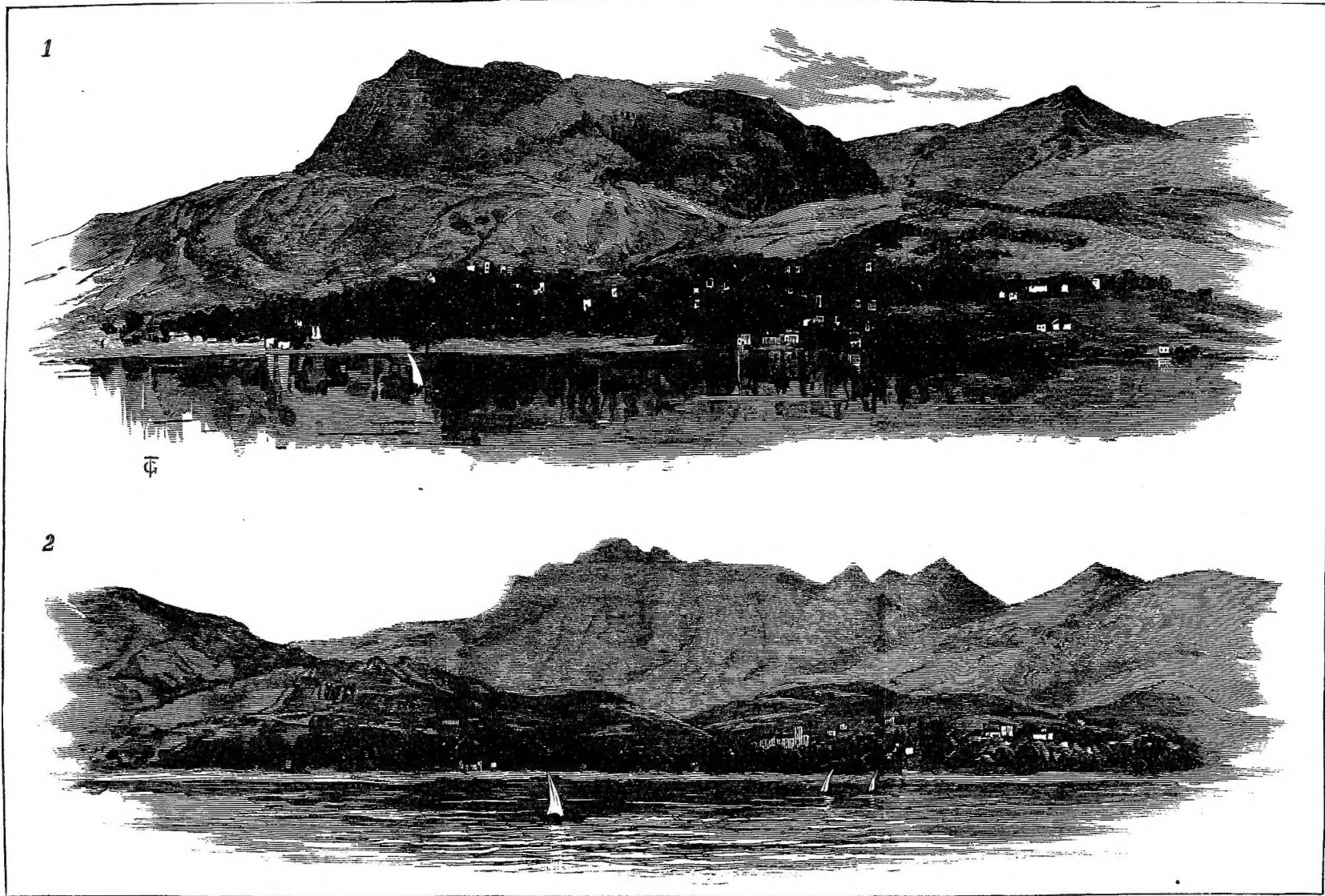
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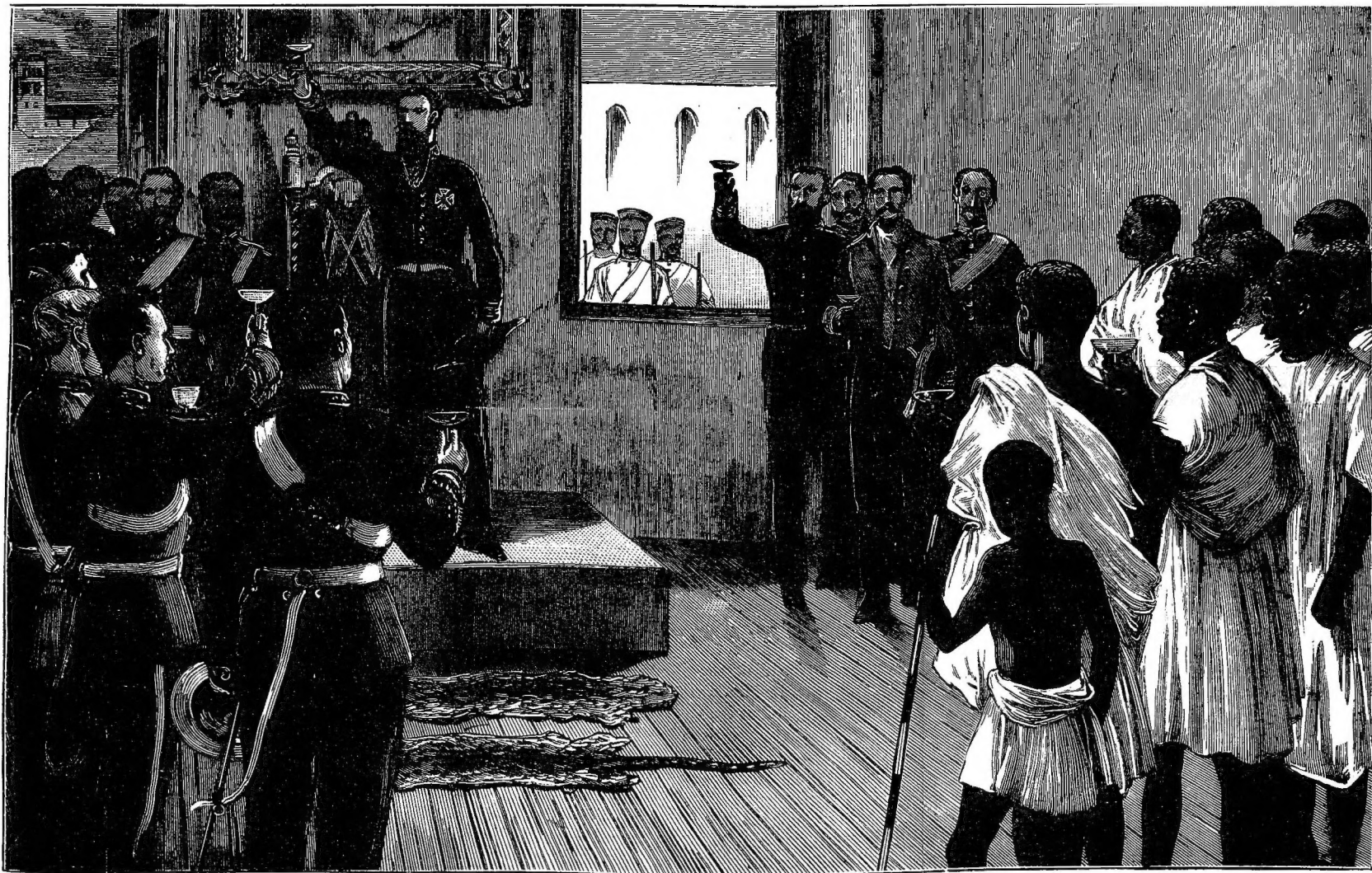
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THE EARTHQUAKE AT SCIO



THE THREATENED ASHANTEE WAR—PALAVER WITH NATIVE AMBASSADORS AT ELMINA CASTLE, MARCH 6, 1881—
DRINKING THE QUEEN'S HEALTH

Topics of the Week

THE LAND BILL.—The process of criticism to which the Land Bill will be subjected can hardly be said, even yet, to have begun in earnest. The scheme is so vast and complicated that serious politicians hesitate to say much upon the subject until they have thoroughly investigated it; and we shall probably not be in the midst of the discussion until Sir Stafford Northcote has indicated the line which is to be taken by the Conservative party. Meanwhile, there can be no doubt that the Bill has produced a favourable impression (notwithstanding the resignation of the Duke of Argyll) upon the bulk of the Liberal party; and it may be assumed that a good many Conservatives would be well pleased if their leaders decided to adopt the principle of the measure, and to dispose once for all of a perplexing and irritating problem. The fact that the Bill is open to objections from the point of view of every important section of politicians does not, or should not, create any prejudice against it; for the same would be true of any set of proposals made by any conceivable body of statesmen. The main object is to secure that no tenant in Ireland shall pay more than a fair rent, that there shall be no evictions without a proper reason, and that tenants, on giving up or on being turned away from their farms, shall be able to obtain full value for their interest in the land and for unexhausted improvements which may have been effected at their expense. It will not do merely to cry out that such an object involves injustice to the landlords, for this is the very point to be proved; the contention of the Government being that Irish tenants are justified in regarding themselves as being in some measure, hitherto undefined, part proprietors. An appeal to political economy is equally vain, since it is admitted by the best political economists that there are states of society to which the laws of their science, and the maxims based on these laws, do not apply. Whether the tribunal by which it is intended that disputes shall be settled will suffice for the purpose in view is a matter about which at present it is difficult to form a final judgment. Some authorities insist that it will be too favourable to the tenants; others (among them Mr. Parnell) that it will be too favourable to the landlords. But this is a question which should present no insuperable obstacle if a substantial majority of the House of Commons approve of Mr. Gladstone's primary aim. The clauses as to emigration and the extension of State aid to persons who wish to become peasant proprietors have not attracted much attention; but it will probably be found that they go as near the root of the difficulty as the provisions regulating the relations of landlords and tenants.

HOLIDAY TASKS FOR EASTERTIDE.—Rarely has the Easter holiday season been entered upon with so many and varied political problems to be considered. At home a Bill revolutionising the tenure of land in the Sister Isle and a measure enacting an important commercial reform; in South Africa the conclusion of a peace which threatens ere long to resolve itself into civil war; in India the abandonment of a position which high military authorities consider to be of the greatest strategical importance; in Europe Russia hesitating between the two paths of reform and enhanced tyranny, and France and Italy ready and almost eager to fly at each other's throats for the possession of Tunis—such are a few of the vexed topics which may well afford food for consideration during the few days' holiday which the nation almost universally allows itself at this period. So great, indeed, has been the tension of the public mind during the past two months that there are few people who will not welcome a short breathing-time in which at all events there will be nothing stirring in political circles. This will give them an opportunity of coming to a more trustworthy opinion on the various questions than they have hitherto been enabled to do, while harassed and bewildered by the innumerable bye incidents which have cropped up almost daily to complicate the aspect of each subject. Any judgment arrived at by cool consideration, and out of the range of party strife, is far more to be trusted than one attained in the heat of political battle, and it is fortunate in one way that Mr. Gladstone was enabled to introduce his Land Bill before Easter, as the measure will thus be regarded from a more impartial point of view than would have been the case amid the dropping fire of "questions," speeches, and contradictory leading articles. Not, however, that all people are partial to holiday tasks, and many, eager for complete rest of brain and energy, will strive to forget such burning questions in the quiet delights of the country or the seaside. There are few places, however, so remote to which the inevitable daily paper does not penetrate at some hour of the day, and the sight of this—like the bugle-call to the fagged charger—will once more rouse the thinker to action, and thus cause him, almost unconsciously, to begin his "holiday task."

WHAT WILL THE LORDS DO?—This question is already being discussed with some anxiety by those who wish for the success of the Land Bill. That the measure will be accepted, even in a modified form, by the Lords cannot be anticipated with confidence; for the Upper House represents the class whose interests (next to those of Irish

tenants) will be most directly affected by the Bill. If it were rejected, the Government would probably be advised by some of their supporters either to resign or to appeal to the constituencies; but it is unlikely that this counsel would be followed. The chances rather are (as the *Daily News* suggests) that the measure would be re-introduced into the House of Commons either next Session or in autumn; a Bill being proposed, in the event of further proceedings being delayed until next Session, stopping evictions in the mean time. It is impossible to look forward with satisfaction to a struggle of this kind; and it may be hoped that the leading Conservative Peers will have the good sense to see that to war against the House of Commons in the present instance would be to fight against the stars in their courses. Mr. Gladstone has a great majority behind him, not only in the Lower House but in the country; and obstinate resistance to the national will would only tend to force on the question whether the time has not come for large constitutional changes. After all, the Lords have often assented to measures which they disliked quite as much as they dislike this Land Bill; and they would give proof of tact and wisdom by showing once more that they understand the limits within which they can safely oppose the current of popular opinion.

THE NIHILIST TRIAL AT ST. PETERSBURG.—The proceedings at the trial of the assassins of the late Czar have rather resembled those of a political debate than of a prosecution of assassins. Taking for granted that a verdict of guilty would be returned, and that condemnation to death would ensue, both accusers and accused devoted all their rhetorical efforts, not to the point in question, whether the prisoners were guilty or innocent, but respectively to the denunciation or defence of the principles of the Society under whose auspices the crime had been committed. The Government Prosecutor dwelt minutely upon the history of the Nihilistic movement, and upon the programme of its promoters, strove to enlist the sympathy of Europe at large by declaring that the Nihilists were connected with the social agitators of other countries, and bitterly attacked the right of asylum which certain nations thought fit to accord to the Revolutionists. Nor on their side were the accused any the less reticent in their advocacy of the political opinions thus denounced. They admitted their guilt unhesitatingly, nay more, they gloried in it, and asked as a favour that their speeches might be published to the world at large. From the very brief summaries which have been permitted to reach this country, it is manifest that the prisoners, though appertaining to very different ranks of society, all belonged to that dangerous class of revolutionary enthusiasts who look to the gallows as the martyrs of old regarded the stake, and who count human life as of small consequence in the fulfilment of any purpose which they have determined to carry out. There is little doubt but that the Russian Government, in converting this trial into a political arena, wished to impress Europe with the dangerous character of the propaganda, and in this manner to appeal to other nations for help in suppressing it. Both Russia and Germany are anxious for a stringent revision of the laws respecting political exiles, and Prince Bismarck will probably find his hands considerably strengthened by the evidence which this trial has given of the extent and depth of the revolutionary movement. At the same time it must be remembered that the ranks of the Nihilists are not likely to be thinned by the political eminence to which it is now acknowledged they have attained. Indeed the privilege of being able to defend his opinions in an open Court, with the certainty that his harangue will sooner or later find its way into the hands of the public, will attract many an enthusiast anxious to hand his name down to posterity, even by means as infamous as those for which the six regicides at St. Petersburg have been condemned to death. Moreover, it must be remembered that these persons formed merely the hands and not the head of the movement; while that the Nihilists are determined to carry on this warfare as vigorously against the new Czar as against his father is evident by the three menacing manifestoes which have just been issued by the Society, in which the Czar is bid to choose one of two paths—the acceptance of a detailed plan of reforms, or the "inevitable revolution."

INDUSTRIES IN IRELAND.—If the Land Bill becomes law we have little doubt that it will tend to satisfy at least a considerable proportion of those Irishmen who at present clamour for Home Rule. Still, it is possible that the land would not under any circumstances suffice for the wants of an increasing population. What Ireland needs, in addition to an improved system of land tenure, is some new outlet for the energies of the people, and this can only be provided by a large development of the industrial resources of the country. A writer in *The Times*, after urging this with much force, has suggested that the Government should give grants or loans for establishing various kinds of Irish manufactures. Few Englishmen will be inclined to approve of a plan which would add in so formidable a degree to the functions of the State; but why should not an attempt be made by private capitalists to grapple with the problem? That the Irish are not a manufacturing race has often been said; but this is a mere assumption, and it is not borne out by the experience of Irishmen in the United States and the colonies. The writer to whom we have referred contends that there is plenty of coal in Ireland, though not of the best quality, while ironstone and limestone are, he says, abundant. If this is true,

there can be no good reason why iron works should not give employment to many Irishmen who at present waste their lives either as agricultural labourers or as the holders of bits of barren soil. The fisheries of the western coasts might easily be made vastly more profitable than they are now, and Ireland is in exceptionally favourable circumstances for the growth of the woollen trade. These facts show that it is a mere superstition to suppose that we must look to agriculture alone for any improvement in the condition of the Irish people; and, if peace were re-established among the various classes of the community, we may be tolerably sure that English capital would soon begin to cross St. George's Channel for new purposes, and with the best results for both countries.

THE BANKRUPTCY BILL.—Bankruptcy reform has long been one of those intricate questions which many statesmen have earnestly attempted to solve, and up to the present time with comparatively scant success. Probably in no way have greater frauds been perpetrated in commercial circles than by the legal process of "going through the Court." The familiar and easy method of being "whitewashed," by which the bankrupt is enabled to clear himself of all his debts and start afresh, has encouraged the most reckless speculation and the dangerous system of trading upon unlimited credit, until these practices almost amount to a national scandal. Indeed, with some men bankruptcy becomes a periodical custom, and the curious part of the matter is that the oftener they are bankrupt the more their subsequent prosperity seems to be enhanced—the fact that many coals have been saved out of the fire being apparent to every one. The evil is doubtless in a great measure due to the system pursued by many large houses of giving unlimited credit to persons whose commercial status is not always above suspicion; and if the loss were confined to these creditors there would be little need for legislation. Unfortunately the greatest sufferers are frequently people of comparatively small means, and who consequently form the chief victims of a fraudulent bankrupt. Many bankrupts would be highly indignant at the word "fraudulent" being applied to them, as they would argue that they had acted throughout with the strictest commercial honesty. If, however, the law had been more severe, and if undue speculation had been regarded not merely as a pardonable error of judgment, but as a recognised legal offence, we doubt not but that they would have looked closer to their business ways, and probably have succeeded in keeping out of the *Gazette* altogether. Thus, much good may be expected from Mr. Chamberlain's Bill. The subjection of all bankruptcies to public control, the abolition of private investigation, and the compulsory examination of the bankrupt in a public Court, the establishment of a minimum payment of five shillings in the pound, and the power of the new Court to commit a bankrupt for trial, will go far to remedy a state of things which has been justly stigmatised in the House as "a national discredit and a fruitful source of injustice and of suffering." Of course there must always be a certain risk in all business transactions, for no man's judgment can be regarded as infallible; but it is only those whose conduct has transgressed the strict bounds of honesty who have anything to fear from a public investigation of their transactions.

MR. BRADLAUGH AND THE OATH.—Mr. Bradlaugh's friends must, we should think, regret his decision to take the oath. It is by no means certain that he will be allowed to carry out his intention; but, even if he receives permission, it will not be an edifying spectacle to see him go through a solemn form which he regards as a farce. Besides, he will have done nothing to forward the cause about which he professes to be so anxious. He announces, indeed, that he will immediately introduce a Bill proposing the right of affirmation; but, in the existing state of business, what chance is there of a measure on such a subject being conducted through the House of Commons by a private member? If he resolutely declined to take the oath, the Government would be almost compelled to deal with the question, and probably neither House would care to resist its will on a matter of this kind. It is difficult to understand why Mr. Gladstone has hitherto shrunk from settling the difficulty by legislation. Many members may honestly dislike Mr. Bradlaugh's company, or the company of any Atheist; but the time for arbitrary restrictions on the admission of national representatives is surely past. Theology has no necessary connection with politics; and the only frank way out of the present dilemma is to decide at once that there shall in future be no theological test for the exercise of political functions. Mr. Bradlaugh would do a genuine service if he made it necessary for the Government to have recourse to this solution. By taking the course which he now proposes he will merely add one more to the long list of persons who have "accommodated" their convictions to the promptings of practical convenience.

TRANSATLANTIC CONSPIRATORS.—We cannot help thinking that there is a little too much attention devoted to the ravings of the gentlemen across the Atlantic who have recently shown their good feeling towards the British Government by condemning Mr. Gladstone to death, and by declaring that the "Mansion House Missionaries" will continue their work. What may be termed an "assassination and dynamite panic" is just now prevailing in official circles; the fact

that an empty pistol was sent to the Home Secretary, manifestly as a practical joke, was formally brought before the notice of Parliament, innumerable scares are raised in towns where barracks or Royal residences are situated, and if a trumpety fire takes place in an official building, it is at once magnified into the act of a political incendiary. Now the public are informed that no "suspicious-looking person" has been seen at Hawarden, where the Premier is taking a few days' well-earned rest—as though conspirators in the nineteenth century walked about in Guy Fawkes' costume, while singing *silenzio, silenzio*, at the top of their voices, like that amiable band in the *Ballo in Maschera*. It is of course the policy of Transatlantic Irish agitators to make as much capital as possible out of an incident like the Mansion House Outrage, in order to alarm the authorities, and to make the general public think that where there is so much smoke there cannot fail to be a serious fire. Any one, however, who has occasionally looked at an American newspaper cannot fail to have remarked the sensation speeches which are made by all stump orators in the United States on every available occasion. These, backed up perhaps by a fiery article (copiously embellished with terrifically-worded headings) in the print in question, would lead the inexperienced reader to think that the Union is on the brink of a great catastrophe. Yet the incident excites little if any remark—save perhaps in an opposition journal. Messrs. O'Donovan Rossa and Co. are evidently practising the tactics of their adopted nation, and are trying the effect of big words upon the unsophisticated denizens of the Old Country—apparently with considerable success.

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LYCEUM.—THE BELLE'S STRATAGEM, April 16th.—TO-DAY, Saturday, April 16th, will be presented, with New Scenery, Dresses, and Appearances, Mrs. Cowley's comedy, *THE BELLE'S STRATAGEM*. Dorecourt, Mr. Irving; Letitia Hardy, Miss Ellen Terry; Miss Sophie Young, Mr. Howe, Mr. Te riss, Mr. Finero, Mr. Elwood, Mr. Beaumont, &c. Preceded by Tennyson's *Tragedy, THE CUP*. Synorix, Mr. Irving. Camma, Miss Ellen Terry. Box Office open from 10 to 5, under the direction of Mr. Hurst.

MR. and MRS. GERMAN REED'S ENTERTAINMENT. Easter Monday, at 3 and 8. A New First Piece, *MANY HAPPY RETURNS*, by Gilbert A'Beckett and Clement Scott. Music by Lionel Benson. A New Musical Sketch, *OUR INSTITUTE*, by Mr. Corney Grain, and a New Second Part, *ALL AT SEA*, by Arthur Law, Music by Corney Grain. Easter Monday and Tuesday, at 3 and 8. Wednesday and Friday, at 8; Thursday and Saturday, at 3.—**ST. GEORGE'S HALL, Langham Place.** Admission 1s., 2s.; Stalls, 3s., 5s. No fees. Booking Office now open from 10 to 6.

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THE ANNUAL SPRING EXHIBITION OF HIGH-CLASS PICTURES BY BRITISH AND FOREIGN ARTISTS, including Professor Leopold Carl Muller's Picture "An Important Outside Cairo," is NOW OPEN at **ARTHUR TOOTH & SONS' GALLERY**, 5, Haymarket. Admission One Shilling.

THE SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF CABINET PICTURES BY ARTISTS OF THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN SCHOOLS is NOW OPEN at **THOMAS McLEAN'S GALLERY**, 7, Haymarket (next the Theatre). Admission, including Catalogue, 1s.

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EASTER ARRANGEMENTS.—LONDON, BRIGHTON, AND SOUTH COAST RAILWAY. ALL EXPRESS AND ORDINARY RETURN TICKETS will be extended as usual. **EXTRA TRAINS FOR ISLE OF WIGHT.**—The 4.55 p.m. from Victoria and London Bridge will convey passengers for Ryde, Sandown, Shanklin, Ventnor, Newport, and Cowes on April 16th (1st, 2nd, and 3rd class).

BRIGHTON.—EVERY SUNDAY, a Cheap First-Class Train from Victoria, 10.45 a.m., calling at Clapham Junction and Croydon. Day Return Tickets, 10s.

VOLUNTEER REVIEW AT BRIGHTON.—The March Past of the Volunteers at the Grand Stand on the Brighton Race Course will take place soon after 2.0 p.m.

A SPECIAL FIRST CLASS EXPRESS TRAIN will leave Victoria Station for Brighton at 9.30 a.m. on Easter Monday, returning from Brighton the same day at 4.45 p.m., arriving at Victoria at 6.15 p.m.

Application for Tickets should be made at Victoria Station, or at the General Offices, 28, Regent Circus, Piccadilly, and 8, Grand Hotel Buildings, Trafalgar Square, on and after April 9th. Fares—London to Brighton and Back, First Class, 7s. 6d.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—FREQUENT DIRECT TRAINS DAILY to the Crystal Palace from London Bridge, New Cross; also from Victoria, York Road, Kensington, West Brompton, and Chelsea.

BRANCH BOOKING OFFICES.—For the convenience of passengers who may desire to take their Tickets in advance, the following Branch Booking Offices, in addition to those at the Victoria and London Bridge Stations, are now open for the issue of Tickets to all Stations on the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway to the Isle of Wight, Paris, and the Continent, &c.:

* The Company's General West End Booking Office, 28, Regent Circus, Piccadilly, W., and 8, Grand Hotel Buildings (under the Grand Hotel), Trafalgar Square.
Cook's Tourist Office, Ludgate Circus.
Gaze's Tourist Office, 149, Strand.
Cavill's Tourist Office, 37, Strand (next Exeter Hall).
Whiteley's, Westbourne Grove.
Hay's City Agency, 4, Royal Exchange Buildings, E.C.
Letts and Co., King William Street, City.
Tickets issued at these Offices will be dated to suit the convenience of passengers.
* These Two Offices will remain open until 10 p.m. on Saturday, April 16.
* For full particulars of Times, Fares, &c., see Handbills and Time Books, to be had at all Stations, and at any of the above Branch Booking Offices.
J. P. KNIGHT, General Manager.
(By Order)

NOTICE.—The Half-Sheet this week, though delivered in the middle of the Paper, must be placed for binding between pages 372 and 381.



THE EARTHQUAKE AT SCIO

SCIO, the Chios of the ancient Greeks, is one of the most beautiful of the islands in the Aegean Sea. Dr. Clarke aptly describes it as the "Paradise of Modern Greece, more productive than any other island, and yielding to none in grandeur." The Chian wine was celebrated centuries ago. Horace eulogised it in his Odes, while from the earliest periods the island has been most highly cultivated. In modern days Scio is celebrated as having been the scene of the most terrible massacre of this century. When the Greek War of Independence broke out in 1822 the inhabitants attacked and captured a small Turkish citadel, putting the garrison to the sword. A Turkish force, however, subsequently took a frightful revenge, some 20,000 persons are said to have been massacred, as many women and children were carried away into captivity, the capital was converted into a heap of ruins, and almost every part of the island was laid waste. Numbers of the survivors immediately fled from the island, which has never recovered the effect of this barbarous punishment. Now Scio has been visited by a disaster scarcely less terrible. On Sunday week an earthquake laid half the island in ruins, thousands being buried beneath crumbling walls. The first shock occurred about half-past one in the afternoon, and shock after shock continued until sunset, and less frequently for several days afterwards. Nearly the whole of the capital, Castro, was destroyed, whole villages are said to have disappeared, while of the 70,000 inhabitants of the island about 6,000 or 7,000 were killed and 25 per cent. of the survivors more or less injured. In consequence of the continuance of the shocks nobody dared to approach the ruins to succour the wounded, whose cries of despair are said to have been heartrending. A relief committee was at once organised, and assistance immediately despatched from Constantinople as soon as the disaster was known, while the officers and crews of the French, British, American, and Austrian vessels of war in the harbour did all in their power to assist the authorities. H.M.S. *Thunderer* was also sent from Malta to the island. The *Times* correspondent, writing on the 9th inst., states that the inhabitants are gradually recovering from the panic, and were endeavouring to recover their furniture, &c., from the ruins. He visited Menita, a town of some 12,000 inhabitants, and found the smaller villages of Monastir, Vinnios, and Philatia, literally masses of ruins, not a single house having escaped. The survivors were camping out in tents, sheds, and shanties. They were tolerably supplied with bread, but were in great want of medical assistance, which was being given them by the English and American doctors. Our engravings are from sketches kindly sent to us by the Rev. William Guise Tucker, who writes:—"In one of my sketches is shown the volcanic conformation of the island, traced in fearful outline, and when I sketched it I bore in mind the fact that volcanoes had to do with that outline. Earthquakes seem to threaten the spectator as he looks upon it. The nature and even colour of the soil is unparalleled. That strange igneous hue which pervades the middle range of mountains seems to betoken combustion, even now acting above and below the surface. Altogether, with its azure mountains in the background and varied eminences in the foreground, some a dusky red, while others were of a pale or dark verdure, according as the foliage of the orange prevailed over that of the olive, it was the strangest, most unearthly, scene I ever witnessed. The other sketch shows the town of Castro or Scio. Scio is a pleasant day's sail from Vourla Bay, and as you enter the Bay of Scio you see Tchesma on your left hand."

THE THREATENED ASHANTEE WAR

A FEW weeks since we were startled by the news that the King of Ashantee had determined to declare war against England, and, wanting an excuse, had sent an ambassador to Cape Coast Castle to demand the surrender of a fugitive. The ambassador carried a golden axe, and this was interpreted into a declaration of war if the request was refused. The demand not being granted, troops were at once sent to Cape Coast Castle from the Mauritius, and a vessel of war despatched to the spot. The whole affair now turns out to have been something of a scare, as the King has since sent ambassadors disclaiming any notion whatever of hostilities.

On the 6th of March His Excellency Sir Samuel Rowe, K.C.M.G., Governor-in-Chief of the Gold Coast, received the ambassadors. After a lengthy but peaceful palaver champagne was handed round, and Her Majesty's health was drunk with three cheers. There were present, besides Lieutenant-Governor Griffiths and Sir Samuel's Special Service Staff, several officers of the Houssas, and a large attendance of naval officers from ships in the bay. There were four Ashanti chiefs—Entschie, Bossumboru, Anani, Bendi, and a cane-bearer, the cane being straight, with alternate bands of ebony and gold. The following Elmina chiefs were also present:—Andoh, Attah, Eera Quacoe, and Quacoe Kortie, with their attendants.—Our engraving is from a sketch by a naval officer.

BARREN ISLAND

THIS small volcanic island is situated in the Bay of Bengal. Its name is derived from the scanty vegetation which clothes its rugged rocks, and the island is supposed to form a link of volcanic action which, beginning in the Island of Java, extends in a curved line to the mud volcanoes of Burmah. In 1789 Barren Island was visited by Lieutenant Blair, of the Indian Navy, and was then found to be in a violent state of eruption, large volumes of smoke issuing from its summit and huge masses of rock being ejected from the crater to a considerable distance. In 1857 Dr. G. R. Playfair visited the island and landed there. He describes the island as nearly circular, having a diameter of 2,970 yards, and being formed of high ridges, averaging 970 feet, which slope at an angle of 45 deg. towards the sea and inwards at a larger angle to the base of a central cone, 975 feet high, having a diameter of 2,100 feet at its base. On landing, the water near the shore was found to be quite hot, owing to the proximity of a hot spring. Our engraving is from a sketch by an officer of H.M. Indian Government ship *Kwang-tung*, who has just visited the island. He writes: "The volcano has not been in eruption for several years, but small jets of white smoke or steam may be seen issuing from numerous crevices, while a jet of white vapour comes up from the summit, but not from the original crater, which is closed. The island is more or less wooded on the outside portion, but no large trees are to be perceived on the inside, which round the base of the cone is covered with loose cinders and rocks and stones. No anchorage was obtained off the island, no bottom being found at 200 fathoms quite close to the shore. The landing-place is a very small bay, out of which a hot spring bubbles into the sea below high-water, at a temperature of which is about 140 deg. Fahrenheit."

LORD BEACONSFIELD'S ILLNESS.

THE continued illness of the Earl of Beaconsfield has been a source of increased anxiety in the public mind, and the scene in front of his residence in Curzon Street (as shown in our engraving) is one which may have been witnessed every day during the past fortnight. The crowds of sympathetic callers include not only the immediate relations and personal friends of the illustrious patient, but members of the Royal Family and of both political parties, while Her Majesty the Queen is so solicitous as to his progress that she has telegrams sent to her at frequent intervals informing her of his condition. Numerous enquiries are also daily made by friends in distant parts of the country, and replying to these keeps Lord Barrington busily engaged. The reason for this universal feeling of anxiety was well expressed by Lord Rosebery the other day, when, in addressing the students of Aberdeen University in his capacity of Lord Rector, he said that "the eyes of all England were fixed on the sick bed of Lord Beaconsfield, not because he was powerful, for he had lost his power for the time, nor because he leads a great party, nor because he had been adorned with all the honours the Crown could bestow, but because the people of England had watched and admired the indomitable perseverance and energy with which, beginning in an obscure position, he had surmounted a hundred obstacles (any one of which would have crushed an ordinary man) and placed himself in the fore front of British statesmen."

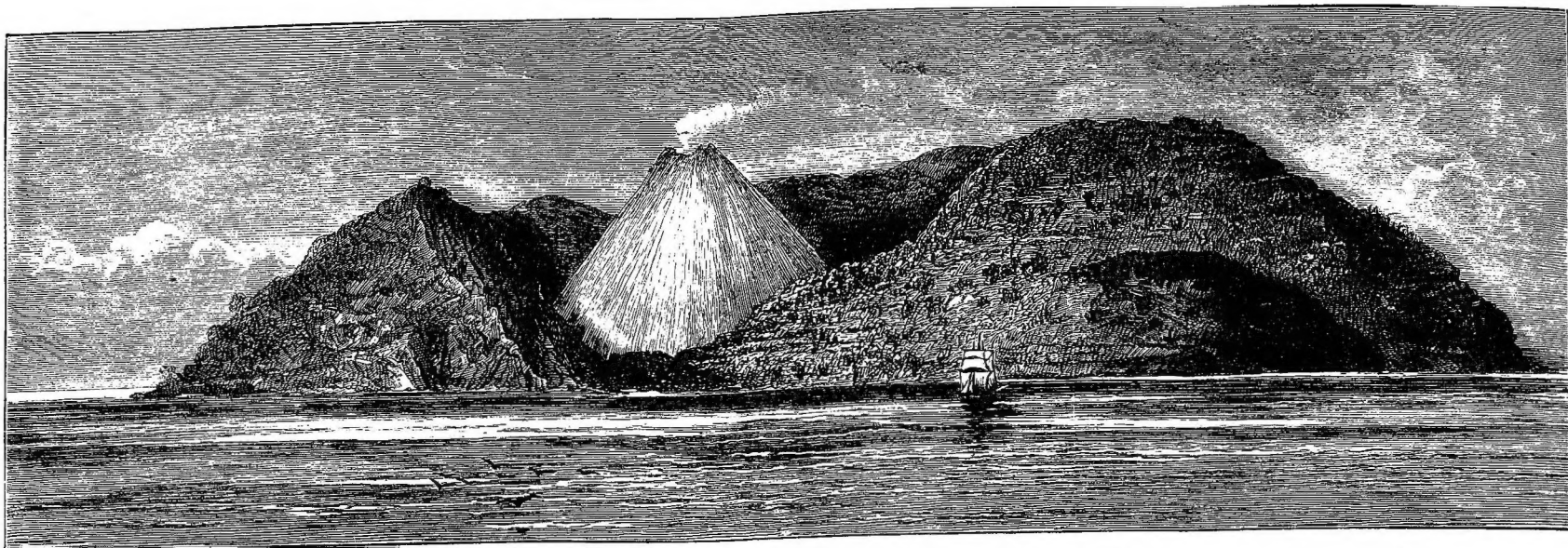
THE FIRE AT LANHYDROCK HOUSE

LANHYDROCK HOUSE, near Bodmin, which was last week partially destroyed by fire, was one of the most interesting buildings in Cornwall, though by no means of very great antiquity. It was built in the early part of the seventeenth century, and was garrisoned for the Parliament by the then Lord Robartes, from whom it was taken in 1644 by Sir Richard Grenville, to whom it was granted by the King; but as soon as Parliament got the upper hand again it was restored to its original owner, and the present Lord Robartes, in whom the title is revived, is descended from the ancient family in the female line, the property having passed by successive marriages of heiresses to the Hunts and the Agars. The fire broke out soon after midday on the Monday, and spread so rapidly along the slated timber roof that two-thirds of the grand old house were destroyed, the three fire engines which came being of little use in consequence of the scanty supply of water. The north wing, which contains the pictures and a ceiling of immense value, depicting scenes from Scripture History in *bas relief* plaster work, was, however, saved by the expedient of pulling down and removing the floors and all other woodwork in the north-west angle of the building, a work which was effected with wonderful rapidity by numbers of willing helpers, who flocked to the scene of the disaster. Much valuable property, books, pictures, &c., was also saved from that part of the building, of which all that now remains are the massive stone walls some three feet in thickness. At one time the adjoining parish church was in imminent danger, but, happily, the wind shifted, and it remained uninjured. The damage is estimated at 10,000l., but it is stated that Lord Robartes is insured for double that amount. Lady Robartes, who was sixty-nine years of age, has since died from the shock to the system caused by the fire.

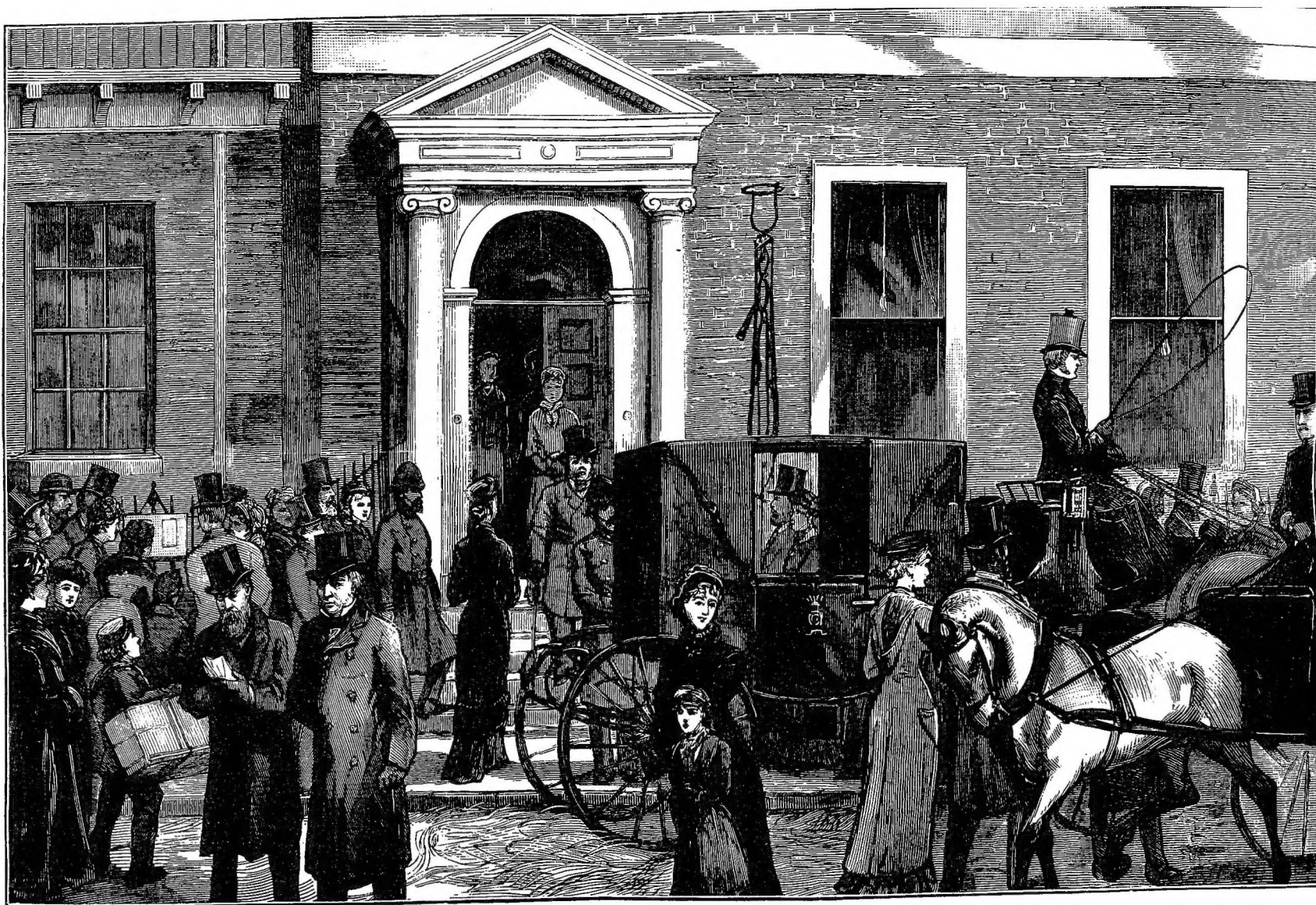
CALIFORNIAN BEE CULTIVATION

There is ground for supposing that there were no bees in the New World prior to the invasion of the European. The Indians agree that the busy little insect is never found far distant from the outskirts of civilisation, and there is a recorded tradition that the invasion of California by the backwoodsman was predicted by a warrior of the Gumas tribe, on discovering a bee-tree on the Gila River. As civilisation advanced, however, its pioneers soon learned to value the honey; and a race of hunters grew up, who made it their business to track the flight of the wild bees to their nests in old hollow trees, and then, by smoking the bees out, and cutting down the tree, or its branch, with a hatchet, obtaining the combs, which were carried away in buckets and tubs. It is only in recent years, however, that anything like bee culture has been attempted; but so rapidly has the system extended, that it has now become quite an important industry, more than thirty-five millions of pounds of honey being annually produced and sold in America. The trade is principally carried on by large capitalists, who have often from 2,500 to 5,000 swarms of bees, and even larger numbers, one firm having as many as 12,000. Perfect organisation is necessary for the management and care of the little workers. In the United States the bees are "farmed out," i.e., apiaries of say a hundred swarms are placed in the grounds of farmers, the distance between each apiary being generally from three to four miles. The farmers receive either a fixed rent or a share of the honey for the accommodation. The bee-keeper has a staff of skilled workmen who clean out the hives and remove the boxes of surplus honey as they are filled. In addition to these experienced bee-men, occupation is afforded for many other people in manufacturing the boxes in which the honey is transported to the different markets, one firm alone, we believe, finding employment for nine men and two steam saws during six weeks of the year in cutting up the timber for the 72,000 boxes which they require. The glass-makers also find some custom from the honey dealers, the slides and ends of the boxes being of glass. On an average one acre is estimated to support twenty-five swarms of bees, and the yield of a swarm is generally about 50 lbs. of honey; so that the trade is evidently capable of yet further development. Much attention is paid to the improvement of the breed of bees, and, with characteristic ingenuity, the Americans have introduced many contrivances to save the time and labour, not only of the honey dealers, but of the bees themselves.

Our illustrations require no special explanation, excepting that



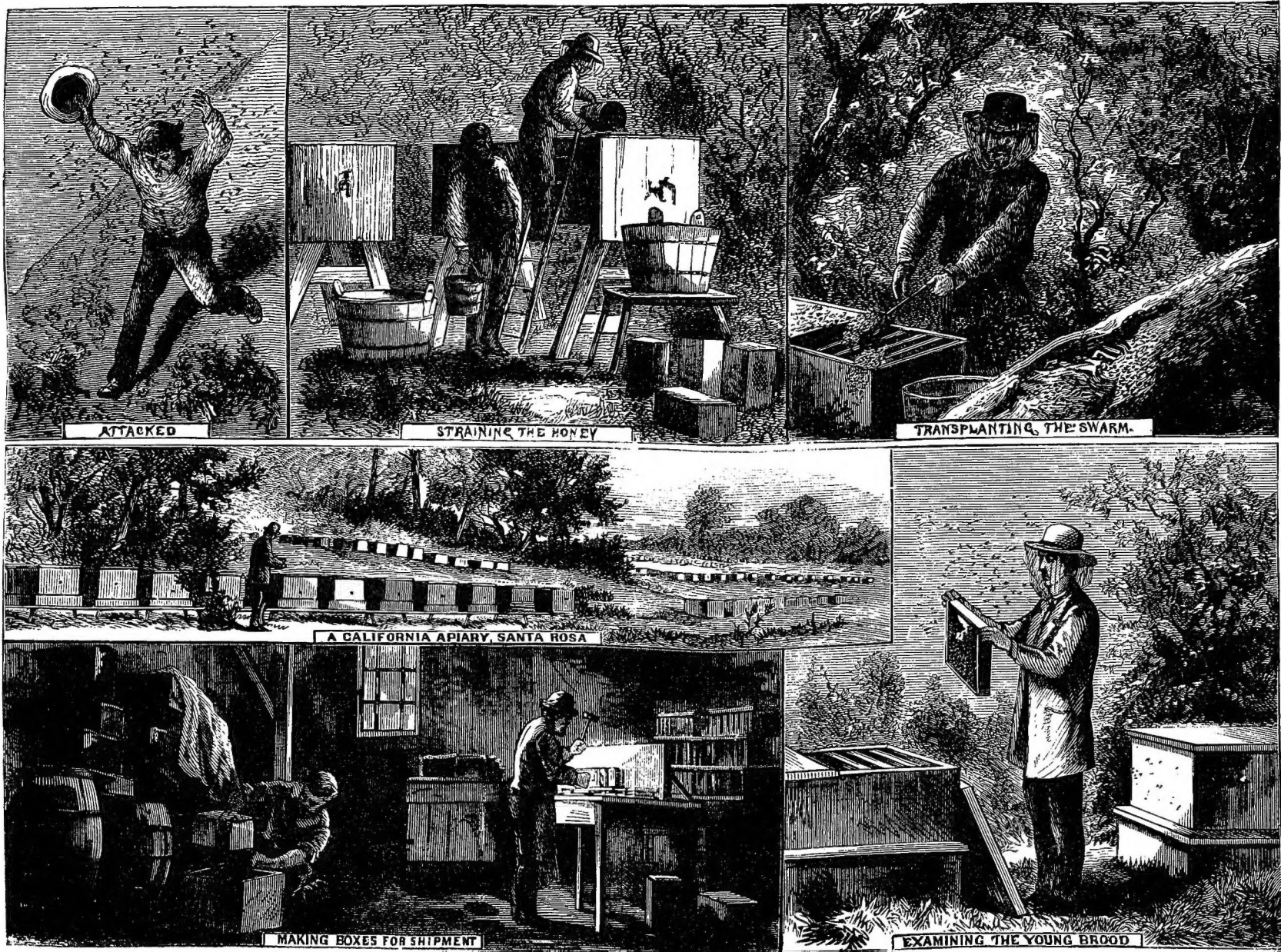
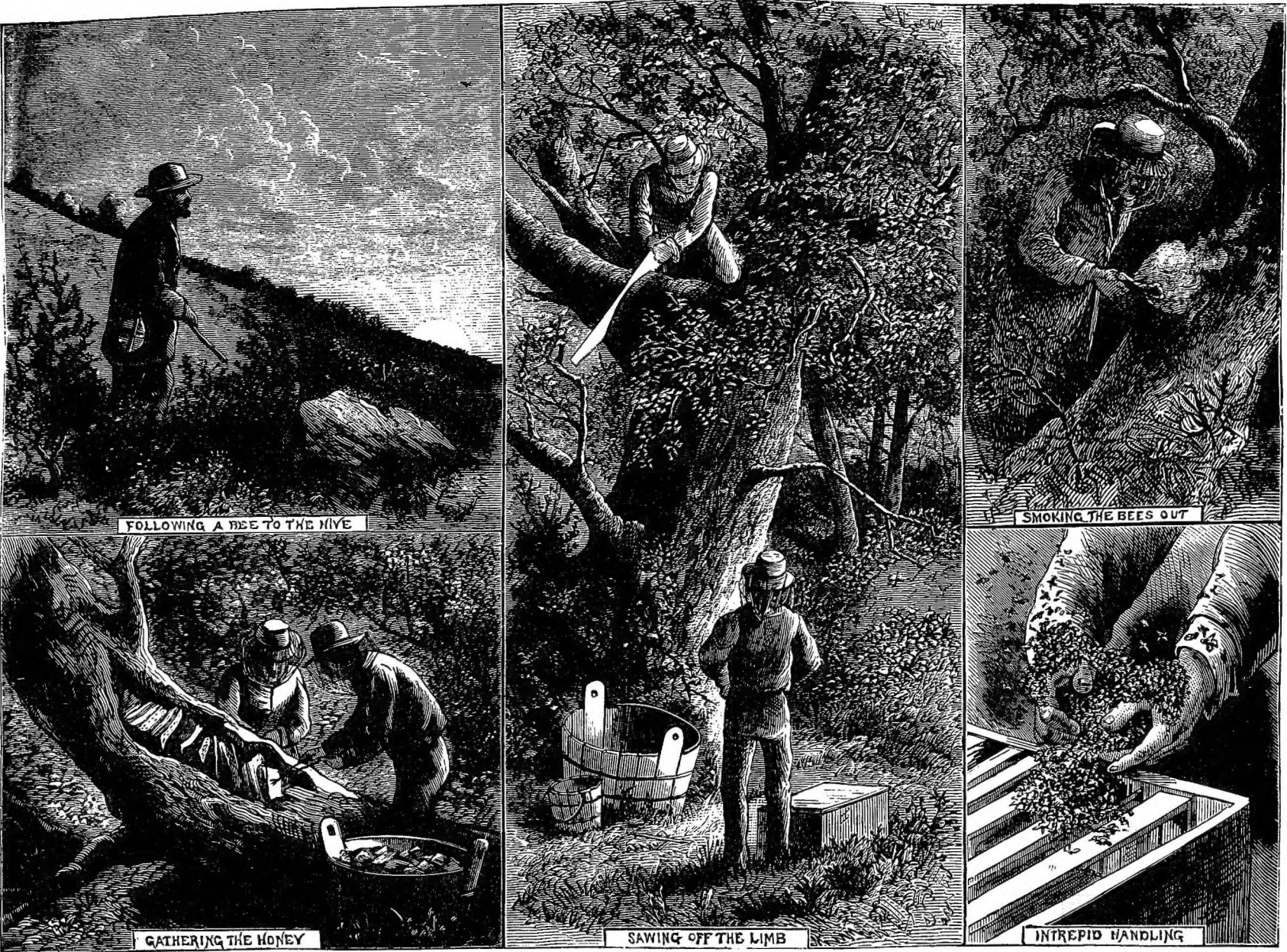
A TROPICAL VOLCANO — BARREN ISLAND, BAY OF BENGAL



ILLNESS OF LORD BEACONSFIELD — ANXIOUS INQUIRERS IN CURZON STREET



LANHYDROCK HOUSE, CORNWALL, SEAT OF LORD ROBARTES — PARTIALLY DESTROYED BY FIRE



BEE-KEEPING IN CALIFORNIA, U.S.A.

the upper half of the engraving represents the primitive method of gathering the wild honey; and the lower, the more elaborate system now pursued.

THE WAR IN SOUTH AMERICA

WE have already illustrated and published the details of the campaign between Chili and Peru, which has ended in the total defeat of the Peruvians under the Dictator Pierola and the capture of Lima, and we now publish some engravings from photographs taken of the closing scenes of the war.

The Chilians, as may be remembered, having, after a series of engagements, taken possession of the district of Tarapaca, the city of Tacna, and the fortified port of Arica—all in South Peru, despatched an army, under General Baquedans, for the more formidable enterprise of attacking the Peruvian capital. To defend this, the Peruvian Government had concentrated around the city of Lima all the available forces of the country, amounting, according to Peruvian accounts, to some 50,000 men.

The Chilians' invading force was estimated at some 30,000 men. They attacked the Peruvian positions at Chorillos, near Lima, on January 13th, and again those at Miraflores on the following day. Both battles were very sanguinary, and resulted in the complete victory of the Chilians and utter dispersion of the Peruvian army, the capture of a large number of guns, mitrailleuses, and other arms, and the surrender of Lima and Callao, which still remain under the control of the Chilian authorities. Impartial accounts from Lima speak in high terms of the orderly conduct and discipline of the Chilian troops in possession. From the commencement of the war the Chilians have shown marked superiority to their opponents in soldierly qualities, and it is worthy of note that, such is the energy and patriotism of the Chilian nation, that out of a population estimated at under 2,000,000, Chili has been able to place on the enemy's territory, since the commencement, forces amounting to some 70,000 men, mostly volunteers.

NOTES ON BOARD A TRANSPORT VESSEL

OUR sketches depict some scenes on board one of the transport ships recently bound for the Transvaal with cavalry for the reinforcements. There is much more work for the cavalry soldier at sea than for his infantry colleague, as he has to look after his steed and groom him as carefully as on shore, and now and then give him a little air and exercise on deck. As a rule a horse is a very miserable animal on board ship, and does not seem to relish the vagaries of Father Neptune any better than does his biped master. He is not fond, moreover, of the process of hoisting, but it is a singular thing that the most restive horse is cowed when once lifted off his feet into the air. With regard to the sketch of coaling at Funchal, our artist writes, "It was a dark cloudy night when we arrived off Madeira. Nevertheless, the coal lighters were able to approach the ship, and I have attempted to depict the appearance of one towed by a steam launch, with the glare of the rush torches held aloft and reflected on the water to light the men at their work."

"THE CHAPLAIN OF THE FLEET"

THIS NEW STORY, by Messrs. Besant and Rice, illustrated by Mr. Charles Green, is continued on page 373.

THE "PROMENADE DES ANGLAIS," NICE

THE "Promenade des Anglais" is the great lounge of Nice. Here, while we poor stay-at-home folk are shivering in November fogs, December snows, or the east wind of a British spring, the worthy denizens of Nice are sunning themselves amid a semi-tropical vegetation. The name of the walk is derived from the fact that a large number of English take refuge there during the winter, but it is really most cosmopolitan in its features, as people of all nationalities may be seen there taking their afternoon stroll. "There are numbers of invalids," writes our artist, "and countless babies—often equally ill. One figure in my sketch is that of an English officer well-known at Nice, while the others mainly depict types of the prominent *habitués* of the promenade." A correspondent of the *Parisian*, recently writing from Nice, thus describes the scene:—"Facing the sea is the well-known 'Promenade des Anglais,' lined with palm trees. It is most amusing to go there at three o'clock in the afternoon, when all the world turns out in such gorgeous costumes that would take sheets to describe them. It really is a pretty picture to see the hundreds of people of many nations sitting together in groups, enjoying the warmth of the brilliant sunshine, under the shade of their many-coloured umbrellas. There are most charming little carriages, with very small ponies, driven by a man who sits behind you, and numbers of these may be seen driving up and down the promenade, by the bluest of seas, over which innumerable sea-gulls are skimming."

"THE HOUSE OF SIMON THE TANNER"

JAFFA, which is the seaport of Jerusalem, being situated only about thirty-two miles from the Holy City, was in ancient times known as Joppa, and the house represented in our engraving is pointed out by the native inhabitants, the missionaries, and the merchants who frequent the place, as the veritable building where Simon the Tanner lived, and where St. Peter was lodging when he had the vision of unclean beasts, as narrated in the 10th chapter of the Acts of the Apostles. The building, which stands on a very steep eminence close to the sea shore, is now a mere ruin, there being little beyond the walls and a single chimney to show that it was ever a habitable dwelling. Some effort has, however, been made to prevent further decay by coating the ruins with a white cement, which appears to be only a few years old, and a keeper or caretaker is placed in charge of it. In the enclosed space to the right are several tombstones immediately beneath the weeping tree, the top of which is visible over the walls. The flat roof on the extreme left corner is supposed to be the spot where St. Peter prayed and had the vision.—Our engraving is from a sketch by Mr. T. E. Williams, 30, Newark Street, Liverpool.

"THE ENTOMBMENT OF CHRIST"

THIS engraving is from a photograph of a painting by Charles Verlat, an artist of considerable repute, many of whose works are of a Scriptural character, he having spent a long period in the Holy Land collecting materials for his paintings, and working at them there from living models and actual scenes connected with Sacred History. He was born at Antwerp in 1824, and was a pupil of Nicaise de Keyser, studying also at the Academy of his native city, where he is now a Professor. He is a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour. Though he has painted a great variety of works, he is chiefly remarkable for his pictures of animals; and as a painter of sheep and shepherd-dogs, is considered unrivalled, even in Belgium, where the late Eugène Verboeckhoven had a great reputation. Verlat has painted several portraits, which are, however, of unequal merit, and is also a very facile and versatile etcher. Some of his pictures display considerable humour, as, in "Might is Right," in which a big monkey is taking a nut from the jaws of a little one. His "Storming of Jerusalem" is in the Museum at Brussels. In the picture before us, the subject of which is especially appropriate at this solemn season, we have a vivid realisation of the event immediately following the Crucifixion, as we read of it in the Gospel narrative. The dead body of Our Saviour has been laid in the simple Jewish tomb, and Joseph of Arimathea is reverently engaged in swathing it in linen, whilst Nicodemus, who has brought the mixture of myrrh and aloes, and Mary Magdalene and the other

Mary, stand by mournfully watching the operation. The sad yet sweet simplicity of the whole scene appeals irresistibly to our imagination and sentiment, and renders comment or criticism quite superfluous.

AN ARTISTS' CARNIVAL BALL

Both in North and South Germany the artists' festivals are always organised with great care, and no pains are spared to make them as complete and as truly artistic as possible. Whenever there is a national pageant the artists' section is invariably the most noticeable; while at every *fête* the artists appear only too pleased to exert themselves and display their talents by lending their assistance in order to secure some really striking and novel effect. It is owing in a great measure to this that the processions and cavalcades, which are so prominent a feature in all Belgian, German, and Austrian festivals, are so superior to our own efforts in that direction, which for the most part are executed mainly under the direction of some successful circus master. But to see even German artists at their best you must go to one of their special balls—say at Carnival time—when all their ingenuity is exercised to the uttermost to produce some new and striking effect. For instance, in the ball illustrated in our engraving, which was recently given at Munich, one group inhabited an American hut, another manned a ship; while the fancy dresses ranged from the Heathen Chinese to a Carmelite monk, or a Sandwich Islander clothed apparently, as "Bab" would say, "in his native nothingness." In the small engraving is shown the Committee of the ball in the costumes of the dread Council of Inquisitors, answering the applications for invitations.



ELECTION NEWS.—Mr. Bradlaugh has been again returned for Northampton, though Mr. Corbett ran him very close, the majority being only 132. He attributes the falling-off in his score to the defection of the Irish, but his opponents have quite another explanation of the matter. He has announced his intention of taking the oath, and on the same night, or certainly the next night, moving for leave to bring in a Bill to substitute affirmations for oaths in cases where persons object to take an oath. Being an Atheist, he would, of course, laugh at the proverb, "*L'homme propose, Dieu dispose*," but nevertheless there can be little doubt that some strenuous opposition to his admission as a member will be offered by a certain section of the House.—At St. Ives Mr. Ross (C) has beaten his opponent, Mr. Pendarves (L), by 462 votes to 360; while at Sunderland Mr. Samuel Storey (L), the proprietor of the *Sunderland Daily Echo*, who has been thrice mayor of the borough, has been returned without opposition.

AT THE EASTER MONDAY REVIEW at Brighton about 22,000 men of all arms will assemble, some 6,000 or 7,000 of whom will march part or the whole of the way from London, the rest going by rail. The "general idea" of the manoeuvres is that General Higginson is advancing with a force from Lewes to oppose the "enemy" under General Earl, who, having effected a landing at Brighton, has reached the heights near Newmarket Farm, where he is attacked before he can entrench or receive reinforcements. There are to be nine umpires, of whom Colonel H. A. Smyth, R.A., is the chief.

BRIBERY AT ELECTIONS.—The Oxford Election Commissioners' Report states that corrupt practices were not committed at the election of 1868, but prevailed extensively at the elections of 1874 and 1880. Fifty-five persons are scheduled as being guilty of corruption in respect of their own votes in May last, and eighty-four in respect of votes of others.—A correspondent of the *Daily News* points out that out of a total of 7,748 persons scheduled for bribery by the Election Commissioners of Sandwich, Boston, Macclesfield, Canterbury, Gloucester, and Chester, only twelve did not receive certificates of indemnity protecting them from prosecution; so that the risk of punishment can hardly be considered sufficient to deter men from giving or receiving bribes.

THE IRISH LAND BILL is now the chief subject of political disquisition, and much oratory *pro* and *con* regarding it may be expected during the Easter vacation. The Duke of Argyll is unable to support it, and has consequently resigned; and Lord Carlisle, who was President of the Board of Trade in Mr. Gladstone's previous Cabinet, succeeds him as Lord Privy Seal. At the meeting of the Dublin Land League on Tuesday, a resolution was passed expressing dissatisfaction with the measure, but at the same time declaring that its introduction was an admission on the part of the Government of the exertions of the organisation and of the justice of its principles. A committee was appointed to consider the Bill and report on it to a conference of delegates which is to be held in Dublin one day next week. Mr. Parnell condemned many of the provisions of the Bill as illusory; though at the banquet given to him at Cork on Sunday he expressed a hope that it would lead after a few years to the fulfilment of Davitt's programme—the abolition of landlordism and the prosperity of Ireland. Mr. Dillon seems to be in doubt whether to approve it or not, his declaration being that "perhaps the House of Lords may save the Land League the trouble of destroying it by destroying it for them." Mr. O'Kelly, M.P., regards it as "another proof of the inability of the English House of Commons to govern Ireland," and Sir John Holker as "a bewildering complication and perplexity," the only portions of which he can heartily approve being those which provide for the facilitation of emigration and immigration, and the execution by the Government of public works. The Irish press seem to regard it with more or less favour. The *Freeman's Journal* says that it practically gives the Three F's, goes a certain length towards peasant proprietorship, and "must be a means of enormous benefit;" the *Irish Times* thinks that "under it an honest peasantry, their country's pride, can labour, thrive, support the law, and respect their neighbour's rights." There are to be a series of demonstrations throughout Ireland, at which the resolutions passed at the Dublin Conference in respect of the Bill are to be endorsed.

THE "DEMOCRATIC FEDERATION," founded by Mr. Joseph Cowen, M.P., has issued a manifesto setting forth its social and political programme, the object of which is to "unite the great body of the people, quite irrespective of party, in favour of those principles of justice, freedom, and steady progress, which are now too often set aside to suit the convenience of factions." Among the stated objects of the Federation are a complete reorganisation of both Houses of Parliament, so that the business of the country may be done without infringing upon the independence of the Legislature, and a thorough reform of the electoral system, so that the working classes may send their own representatives. The Coercion and Arms Act for Ireland are condemned, and also the "mischievous old system of secret diplomacy;" and an appeal is made to Englishmen, Irishmen, Scotchmen, and Welshmen to unite in order to secure the redress of their grievances at home, and that no further wrong be done in their name abroad.

FENIAN PLOTS AND THREATS.—Telegrams from New York announce that the "Fenian Skirmishers" of that city have condemned Mr. Gladstone to death, as they consider him responsible for the recent fatal affrays in Ireland between the police and the people, which they regard as the outgrowth of the Coercion Act. It is added that they are now deliberating how the sentence shall be

carried out; and our own daily papers say that special precautions are being taken at Hawarden and elsewhere to defeat their murderous intentions.—From New York also comes the news that a man named O'Donnell, who has just arrived there from France, has publicly proclaimed himself to be one of six "missionaries" who were engaged in the attempt to blow up the Mansion House, which he says was done in revenge for the passage of the Coercion Act, the Lord Mayor being selected as a victim because, although himself an Irishman, he advocated the measure.—The assassination epidemic is spreading, and the cowardly ruffians do not confine their attempts to great public personages; witness the recent case just reported from Horley, Surrey, where a police-sergeant found a bottle containing gunpowder and a partially-burnt fuse close to his door.

SIR WILLIAM JENNER, M.D., K.C.B., was on Monday elected President of the Royal College of Physicians of London. He is the first graduate of the University of London who has ever attained to that position, and also the first President of the College of Physicians who has received a license to practise from all the English medical corporations—viz., the College of Physicians, the College of Surgeons, and the Society of Apothecaries.

FIRES IN THEATRES.—The Lord Chamberlain has issued a memorandum to the managers of theatres, calling their attention to the recent disaster at Nice, and urging them to make the public acquainted with all extra means of escape from their houses in case of fire. He also reminds them of the importance of removing extra chairs and other obstructions; of providing a fire-proof proscenium dividing the stage from the auditorium, and a separate gas supply for each division; and warns them that these points will be specially considered before the renewal of licences in September next.

THE TELEGRAPH CLERKS who lately formed a deputation to Mr. Fawcett have sent to him a long letter in reply to his recent circular. They express themselves both surprised and grieved at the charges brought against them, declaring that one of the principal objects of their labours during the past four months was to strengthen his hands and enable him to come to a just and impartial settlement of their grievances. They announce that they have unanimously determined to suspend all action pending his decision.

THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD, at its last meeting, unanimously elected Mr. Edward North Buxton to the Chairmanship of the London School Board, in the room of the late Sir Charles Reed; and Mr. Freeman to the Vice-Chairmanship. Previous to the election Mr. George Potter moved that the Chairman should have an annual salary of 1,500*l.*, but after some discussion the motion was withdrawn.

SIR ROBERT CARDEN, who is eighty years old, when attending the University Boat Race last week, slipped from a boat into fifteen feet of water, and was not rescued until some little time, but he appears to have sustained little injury from his prolonged immersion, as on Monday he was in his usual place on the Bench at the Mansion House. Not long ago Sir Robert was knocked down by a cab.

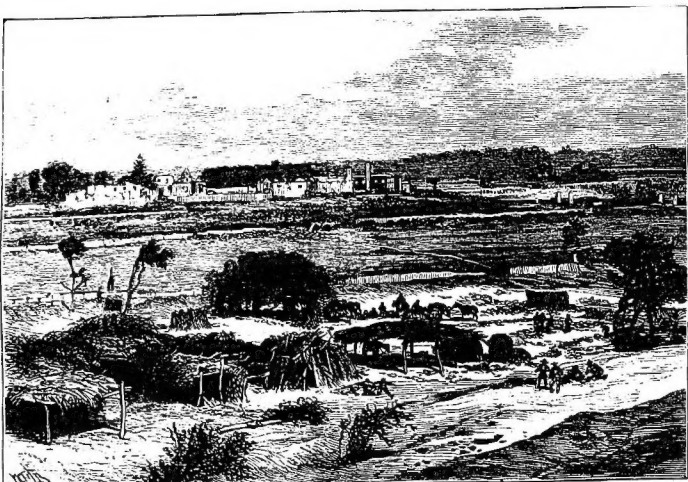


CONSIDERING the early date at which the Session commenced, and the pace at which it has been maintained, Members of the House of Commons appeared exceedingly unwilling to take their holiday. Up to the last moment fighting was going on, and actually the last procedure in the Commons was to bring in, with evident determination to push it forward, a Bill that has balked the endeavours of more than one Lord Chancellor. This happened on Friday, less than twenty-four hours after Mr. Gladstone had brought in the Land Bill. The House had a morning sitting by way of winding up earlier, with the special object of securing an opportunity for Mr. Chamberlain to bring in his Bill. This was another of those infringements of the rights of private members which complaint has been plentifully made in the Session. But practically it was saving a day out of the week. If the House had met in the ordinary way at four o'clock, it would have been counted out as soon as questions were over; and neither Ministers nor private members would have profited by the occasion. As it was, the Bankruptcy Bill was brought in and explained. After this it was not thought worth while even to make pretence of an evening sitting, and at seven the House adjourned for the Easter Recess.

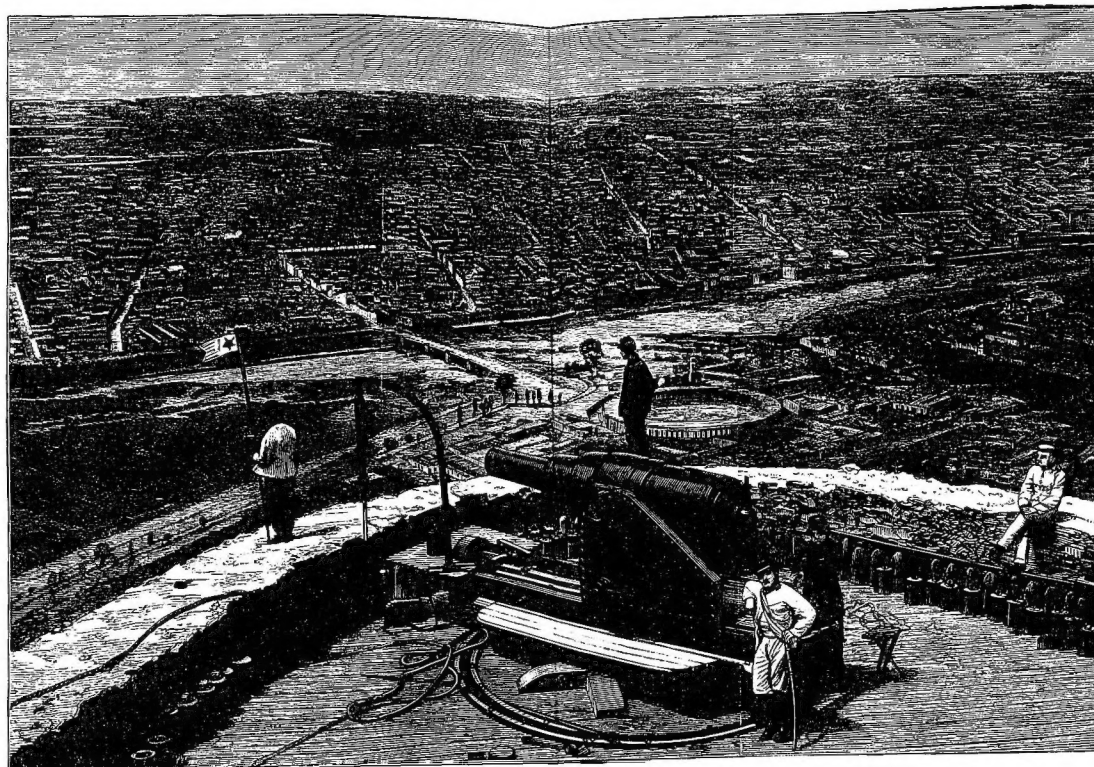
But it was not without a fight, which at one time seemed to presage a general engagement, that deliverance was effected. The Premier moved the formal resolution that the House at its rising adjourn till the 25th. On this Sir Stafford Northcote rose, and urged with fresh force an objection that he had earlier made to the Second Reading of the Land Bill being taken on the first day of the reassembling of the House after the Easter Recess. From this particular objection the Leader of the Opposition launched upon a general review of the conduct of the Ministry thus far through the Session, setting aside by side therewith a glowing description of the patience and patriotism of the Opposition. Sir Stafford took credit to himself and his friends for the peace which had prevailed in the House during the preceding weeks. No one will dispute the measure of credit due (perhaps chiefly to Sir Stafford Northcote) for the assistance which the Government had met with from the Opposition in advancing the business of Parliament. But the full claim made by Sir Stafford was promptly disputed by Mr. Sullivan, who pointed out, what is unfortunately still less disputable, that it was chiefly by grace of the Irish members that the business of the House had been permitted to proceed without interruption. Mr. Sullivan hinted with alarming distinctness at what might have happened had hon. friends near him persisted in the conduct which they thought proper to pursue up to the period when Mr. Gladstone proposed the adoption of coercive Rules in Committee of Supply. Colonel Tottenham and Mr. Chaplin came to the assistance of their leader, and, ignoring the remarks made by Mr. Sullivan, shifted the ground back to the question of the date fixed for the Second Reading of the Land Bill, and to the general misdeemeanors of the Government. Mr. Chaplin was in high oratorical form, and declaimed, in a House unfortunately nearly empty, on the vices of the Government and their probable consequences. Colonel Tottenham, with soldierly frankness, urged against the date in question the circumstance that if the Second Reading were taken on Monday, the 25th, it would necessitate his leaving his home on the Saturday.

The debate, sharp as it was while it lasted, was confined within narrow limits, and was remarkable chiefly for the speech delivered by Mr. Gladstone. It is a long time since the Premier has shone in the particular manner of this occasion. His ability to make a long and weighty speech is proverbial, and had been reaffirmed in the course of the current week by his introduction of the Budget and the Land Bill. Of these speeches, that on the Land Bill has been applauded both by friend and foe. But it is a question whether either essay gave so much delight to an audience as did the brief speech with which the Premier wound up this irregular and unexpected debate. He spoke for scarcely ten minutes, succeeding in condensing within that space of time an amount of mingled humour and anger, banter and scorn, rarely encompassed within so brief a period. It was Mr. Chaplin whose sitting down had been the signal for the rising of the Premier. It is not the first time that the member for Mid-Lincolnshire has succeeded in bringing Mr.

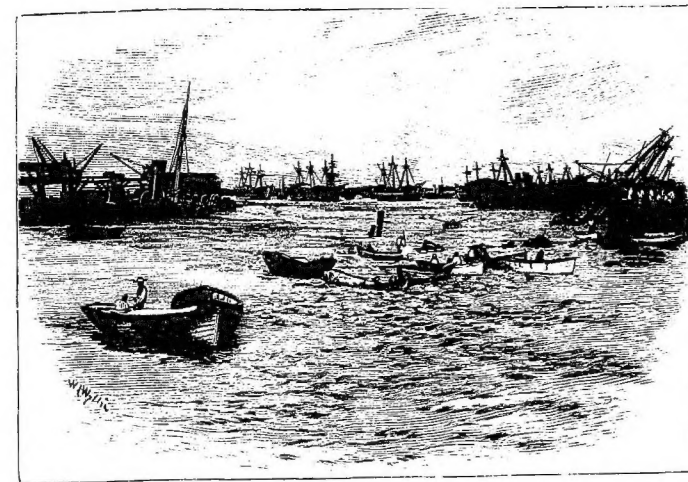
THE PARISIAN IMPRESSIONISTS, or "independent artists," as they now style themselves, have opened their exhibition some little time in advance of the Salon. This is the sixth annual display, and the Independents seem to have lost several of their early and outrageous characteristics. Instead of occupying some out-of-the-way spot they have chosen a house on one of the chief Boulevards, while, although there are many curiously crude and startling productions on the walls, most of the contributors have furnished some excellent work, which is only "independent" in being closely faithful to Nature. Turning to the Salon proper, the jury have after all only chosen 2,420 pictures, for, on counting them after the decision, the number was found to be eighty short. Several conscientious members suggested a fresh examination to make up the proper number, but the majority objected to wading through 7,580 paintings for the second time. The sculpture contributions this year were on as liberal a scale as the pictures. 800 pieces of statuary being sent in.



VIEW NEAR CHORILLOS—AFTER THE BATTLE



LIMA, AS SEEN FROM THE HILL OF SAN CRISTOBAL—CHILIAN SOLDIERS IN POSSESSION



HARBOUR OF CALLAO AND SUNKEN SHIPS



A CHILIAN COLONEL INSPECTING THE PERUVIAN DEAD



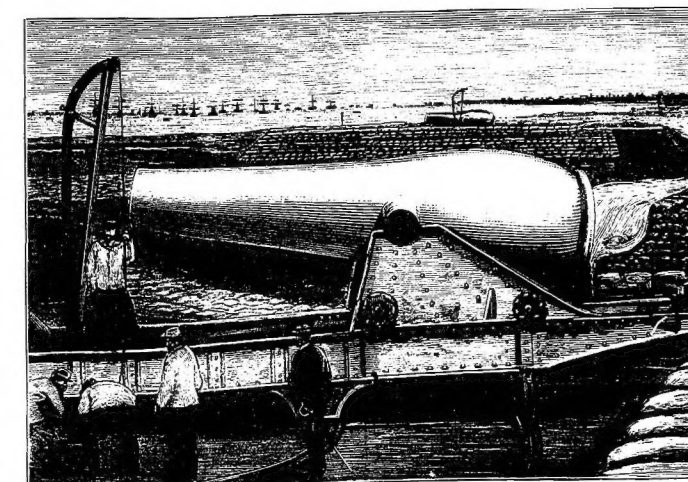
CARRYING CHILIAN WOUNDED FROM THE FIELD



THE CHILIAN MINISTER OF WAR, SENOR DON JOSE FRANCISCO VERGARA, AND STAFF



THE SECOND REGIMENT, CHILIAN ARMY, ON PARADE



BATTERIES AT CALLAO, IN POSSESSION OF THE CHILIANS

THE RECENT WAR IN SOUTH AMERICA—SKETCHES OF THE CAMPAIGN IN PERU



AFFAIRS IN THE EAST.—Greece has not found the task of reconciling the demands of Hellenic ambition with the proposals of the Powers set forth in the last Identical Note a very palatable labour. The tone of the Note is unmistakably decided, showing plainly that the present proposals are substituted for those of the Berlin Conference, and are in the main final. Moreover, both the general tenour of the document and the manner of its presentation have completely convinced Greece of the unanimity of the Powers, which hitherto she had fondly doubted. Swayed, therefore, by the warlike feeling of the country, the Ministry have striven hard to find some middle course which shall satisfy both parties. King George himself seems desirous to accept Europe's decision, and has consulted with M. Delyannis regarding a new Cabinet bound to inaugurate a peace policy. M. Delyannis, however, could not command a sufficient majority; while it was impossible to call M. Tricoupis to office, as he is no less firmly pledged to resistance than M. Coumoundouros. Thus the reply to the Powers has been delayed as long as possible, although it is now daily anticipated. Under the circumstances it is needless to speculate on Greece's future action; but it appears certain that only a small minority of the Greeks are in favour of peace, while moderate minds approve of a temporising answer which shall leave the way open for future concessions and alterations rather than a blunt refusal. Some attempt would thus be made to establish negotiations, and indeed, according to the *Havas Agency*, the Powers have already received a memorandum supporting the two latest Greek circulars, but which is not a formal reply to the Note. This memorandum maintains the decision of the Berlin Conference, declares that Greece cannot forsake her countrymen in Epirus and Thessaly, and details the sacrifice she has made in her preparations to occupy the provinces. In the mean time no effort is spared to put the country in a satisfactory state of defence. On her side also, **TURKEY** is equally active, having, it is said, some 19,000 men concentrated at Janina, with a large supply of artillery, and backed up by the Ottoman squadron.

The disaster in Chio seems to have been even more extensive than at first reported, while the danger is not yet past, fresh violent earthquakes occurring daily. Another case of Turkish brigandage has occurred near Salonica, where an Englishman engaged in mining business, Mr. H. Suter, son of a former British Consul at Varna, has been carried off by a large robber band, who demand a ransom of 15,000*l.* Mrs. Suter was also captured, but was subsequently released, and Mr. Goschen has bidden the Porte hold itself responsible for Mr. Suter's safety and the payment of his ransom.

THE TUNISIAN IMBROGLIO.—Affairs are rapidly assuming a more serious aspect, as FRANCE seems bent upon important movements in Tunis, which are hardly consistent with the simple plea of chastising border raids. The French expeditionary force has gradually grown from a small contingent to a powerful body, and Southern France is in a perfect state of effervescence respecting war preparations. When the matter was brought before the Senate, M. Ferry, while asserting that the Cabinet's object was to crush the disturbances which had lasted for ten years, and that no conquests were sought in Tunisian territory, added that the Government would go as far as was needful to secure the future of Algeria—a somewhat comprehensive assertion. At all events, the Government's conduct is warmly supported, for the House passed a strong vote of confidence, and the Press are almost unanimous in their approval, treating the Bey's protest with contempt. Less satisfaction exists, however, respecting the mobilisation of the Algerian force. The men have been gathered most unsystematically from all parts of the country, and the Minister of War is condemned for incompetency, being styled "General Farre-Niente." France is most anxious about England's attitude, and has been quoting some unofficial remarks made by Lord Salisbury to M. Waddington at Berlin respecting the views with which the British Government would regard a French Protectorate in Tunis, and which were in some measure supplemented by a confidential despatch to Lord Lyons. Otherwise there seems little concern as to the opinion of other Powers, and the excitement in ITALY has produced a very slight impression. Yet the Italians themselves are agitated enough, and have evolved a Ministerial crisis on the subject, while Italian emissaries are said to be working hard to influence the Bey in Tunis. Meanwhile, the Bey has issued a vehement protest against French aggression, alleging that he is quite capable of punishing the marauders without foreign assistance, and appealing to the Powers to support his rights, while he has further officially informed the French Government of his friendliness, and requested them to abstain from any action likely to imperil amicable relations. He does not appear, however, to possess much influence over the Khroumirs, for a conciliatory deputation despatched to the chief of the tribe were virtually told to mind their own business if they regarded their safety. France has replied to the Bey that she still intends to cross the frontier, politely adding that she relies on his support. In the event of a collision the Bey is making plentiful preparations, and a column of 5,000 irregulars, with 700 regulars, is marching to the scene of action, under the command of the Bey's brother. It is interesting to note, by the way, according to the correspondent of a contemporary, that these Khroumir raids recur every spring, for the purpose of obtaining wives and cattle, and have hitherto been repressed by the Bey quietly enough.

FRANCE proper has been so occupied by her colonial relations as to spare little attention to other business. The Chambers have adjourned for the Easter recess after a violent scene in the Senate over the dispute between the Prefect of Police and the Paris Municipality, the Government supporting M. Andrieux, but promising to reorganise the relations of the Municipality with the Police. In PARIS, Prince Pierre Bonaparte, son of Lucien Bonaparte, has died of gout, after a somewhat unimportant life, in which the chief event was the killing of Victor Noir during the last days of the Empire. This being Holy Week, the capital has been dull, only allowing itself the mild dissipation of attending the reception of the lawyer, M. Rousse, at the Académie, in order to see how the Duc d'Aumale would acquit himself of the awkward task of eulogising the new Academician's predecessor, the Republican Jules Favre. Many of the theatres have closed their doors, and the only dramatic events have been a mediocre *opera bouffe*, *Les Poupées de l'Infante*, by M. Grisart, at the Folies Dramatiques. The Radicals have tried to arouse sympathy for the Irish Land Leaguers by a clever lecture on Irish affairs, but the audience was only attentive when M. Clemenceau inveighed against the Catholic Church.

RUSSIA.—The trial of the late Czar's assassins has resulted in the condemnation of all six to death by hanging. The Court was composed by special ukase, the members acting both as judge and jury, while the prisoners were allowed to speak with unusual freedom. Jeliaboff, the arch-conspirator, conducting his case with great ability, and seeking to palliate the guilt of Risakoff and Michailoff by describing them as merely ignorant instruments. The last sitting occupied twenty hours, and the formal sentences were delivered next day, the prisoners, who were remarkably cool throughout, being allowed twenty-four hours to appeal for mercy. As Sophie Perovskaja belongs to the nobility, her case must be laid before the Emperor, and public opinion, even in moderate circles, is covertly opposed to the execution of two women, no female having been

hung in Russia for fifty years. The Nihilist Executive Committee have issued a "petition of rights" to the Czar, urging him to grant a general amnesty for political offenders, and a National Assembly, with such minor liberties as freedom of meeting, speech, and the press. If he complies "with the will of the people," they promise him complete peace, he may dismiss his spies, disband his guards, and burn his scaffold. If not they promise "inevitable revolution." This proposition is accompanied by an address to Europe, justifying their action, and announcing the determination to perish or to break the despotism of centuries. It is thought that this appeal to the Czar, audacious as it is, yet shows that the Nihilists are ready in some measure to temporise with the Powers that be. The Court has now gone to Gatchina for rest, while St. Petersburg is much excited over the arrest of the eldest son of the Grand Duke Nicholas, who was supposed to be aiding his father in political intrigues against the Czar.

INDIA.—The evacuation of Candahar was to begin on Wednesday, and will occupy about ten days, the rearguard leaving on the 22nd. Altogether the troops will march in four divisions, two clear days being allowed between each column in consequence of the road over the Khojak being damaged by the wet weather. These late heavy rains, however, are particularly fortunate for the health of the British, as the usually sultry Bolan Pass is said to be considerably cooler than ordinarily. The majority of the Candahar force will go straight home to India, and troops from Bengal will replace the present Quetta garrison, who in their turn will be transferred to Pishin, and various frontier posts. Meanwhile, the Ameer's advance guard, with the new Governor, have remained at a discreet distance from Candahar, the Deputy-Governor making all the arrangements for taking over the administration of the province. The Afghan cavalry, delayed by the rains, are expected on Thursday, and, as a further assistance, a present of three batteries of smooth-bore guns has been sent up from Quetta. Probably Abdurrahman may need all the help he can get, for there seems a reasonable suspicion that the reports of the Herat insurrection have been purposely exaggerated; and that Ayooob is only waiting for the British to be safely out of the way to fall upon his kinsman. At present the country is wonderfully quiet, and so too is the Khyber, where caravans pass unmolested, while the tribes are occupied in fighting amongst themselves for the subsidy. In Bombay the court-martial is proceeding on Colonel Malcolmson for alleged misconduct during the retreat from Maiwand last July. The accused is charged, amongst other things, with cowardice before the enemy, and with endeavouring to retreat so rapidly as to desert the guns laden with wounded.—A rising of the Bheels, near Osdeypur, is reported.

SOUTH AFRICA.—The surrender of Potchefstroom has been cancelled, as the Boer leaders have acknowledged that the commandant of their investing forces broke their pledges by suppressing the news of the armistice. Accordingly the town has been reoccupied by the British, the apology being accepted. Throughout the Transvaal the Boers seem to be revenging themselves vigorously on the English settlers for the latter's conduct during the late war. Outrages are reported on all hands, the settlers finding their farms occupied on their return, and receiving no redress for damage. Such occurrences naturally swell the prevailing discontent with the peace arrangements, and throughout the country there is a rapidly-increasing impression that peace cannot last, this impression, for other reasons, being shared in some degree by the younger Boers, who disagree with M. Joubert. The prospect of any portion of the Transvaal being retained by England gives great umbrage, many of the Boers declaring that on such an event they will immediately take up arms again. Probably the future boundary will be fixed at longitude 30 deg., whereby nearly one-third of the territory would be ceded to England, but nothing will be known until the meeting of the Royal Commission on April 30th. The Boers declare that their total losses in the war number twenty-three killed and forty-two wounded, and state that if the British artillery fire at Laing's Nek had lasted a little longer the day would have been won by England, as the shells had a most demoralising effect on the defenders.

UNITED STATES.—There has been considerable excitement concerning Fenianism, particularly regarding the Skirmishers' threats to assassinate Mr. Gladstone. The Americans, however, find enough to do with malcontents in their own Senate, where the conflict between Republicans and Democrats continues without prospect of agreement, while there is much anxiety felt about the proceedings of the Anti-High Rent League, which are spreading through the chief cities, the Chicago Labour Union having decided on a firm battle with the landlords. California has been alarmed by an earthquake, which happily did no harm; while serious floods have occurred in Dakota through an ice-gorge damming up the Missouri. Considerable loss of life is reported. Another edition of the Charley Ross abduction case has taken place in New York, where a rich jeweller was bidden by letter to hand over 12,000*l.*, unless he wished to lose his little daughter. By stratagem the police caught the two offenders, one of whom was killed; but the plans had been so well laid that even the passages to Europe had been taken for the abducting party.



THE QUEEN is spending Easter at Osborne, with the Princess Beatrice and Prince Leopold. Her Majesty at the end of last week received Prince Woronzow, who had come from St. Petersburg on a special mission to announce the accession of Alexander III., and to present an autograph letter from the Czar. After the interview, Prince Woronzow and his *aide-de-camp*, the Comte de Ribeaupierre, dined with the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh, Earl Sydney, and several other guests joining the party. On Sunday morning Divine Service was performed at Osborne before Her Majesty, the Princess Beatrice, the Duke of Edinburgh, and Prince Leopold, when Canon Prothero officiated. On Monday the Duke of Edinburgh's children arrived on a visit to the Queen, and were shortly followed by the Duke of Argyll.—The Queen may probably visit Edinburgh during the autumn, when Her Majesty would stay at Holyrood. If the visit takes place there will be a review of the entire force of Scotch Volunteers in the Queen's Park.

The Prince and Princess of Wales and their daughters have gone to Sandringham for Easter. The Princess returned from St. Petersburg on Monday, having spent Saturday with the German Imperial Family at Berlin, and, on arriving in town, accompanied the Prince of Wales to call on the Duchess of Cambridge and on Lord Beaconsfield, where the Prince has called daily during the Earl's illness. On Monday next the Prince and Princess visit Norwich to open the National Fisheries Exhibition. After Easter the Prince will hold two more *levées*, and will go to Vienna to attend Prince Rudolph's wedding.

The Princess Louise has returned to London from Italy, after spending two days in Paris on her way home.—The Duke of Edinburgh has this week been inspecting the Coastguard stations in the Isle of Wight, staying on board the *Lively* at Cowes. The Duchess remains in Russia.



HALF-PAY IN THE CHURCH.—The *Guardian*, in an article on "Our Curates," says that "the young clergyman is certainly better off than the young officer or barrister or doctor. The disadvantage of the Church come in at a later stage. Preferment being slow and uncertain, his services are less sought after, and more slenderly remunerated as strength and energy decline, and at last he too often presents a sample of that clerical poverty which is one of the scandals of the Church. There is no one thing more needed in the Church than a liberal system of 'half-pay.' The large majority of our benefices will not bear a retiring pension, and so remain for years in the possession of incumbents who have ceased to be competent for their duties. If such men could be asked, or, if need be, obliged, to retire on generous terms, the Church would in many a neglected parish be vastly the better for the change, and the preferment of many an able and zealous curate would be quickened."

THE MACKONCHIE CASE.—The final judgment of the House of Lords in this case has at last been pronounced by the Lord Chancellor, Lord Cairns, Lord Blackburn, and Lord Watson, who were unanimous in their confirmation of the decision in the Court of Appeal, which by a majority of three to two reversed the judgment of the Queen's Bench granting a writ of prohibition restraining Lord Penzance from enforcing his decree of suspension *ab officio et beneficio* against Mr. Mackonochie for disobedience of his original monition. The effect of the judgment is that Mr. Mackonochie's three years' suspension is confirmed, the appeal being dismissed with costs, and the seven years' war between the Vicar of St. Alban's and the "aggrieved parishioner" is presumably at an end.

MR. MACKONCHIE, however, seems inclined to take as little notice of the House of Lords as he did of Lord Penzance, for on Sunday last he conducted the morning prayer at St. Alban's, though he took no part in the choral celebration which followed; and he was announced to conduct three out of the eight services which were to be held there on Good Friday (yesterday).

THE MILES PLATTING RITUAL CASE came before the Court of Appeal on Tuesday, a rule *nisi* having been granted for a writ of Habeas Corpus, with a view to the release of the Rev. S. F. Green from custody, on the ground—1st. That Lord Penzance, sitting at Westminster, had no jurisdiction to hear the case and issue the writ of *significavit* in respect of disobedience to an inhibition concerning breaches of ecclesiastical law committed within the Province of York. 2. That the whole of the subsequent proceedings were void, there being no authority in the Vice-Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster to receive the writ of *significavit*, and issue the writ *de contumace capiendo* thereupon. 3. That, even assuming that the Vice-Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster had jurisdiction, he had no power to sit and exercise it in Lincoln's Inn, but could only exercise it within the limits of the Duchy. The Lords Justices James, Brett, and Cotton were unanimously of opinion that Lord Penzance had done all that was required to be done by him, and had done it by his proper officers; and the rule was therefore discharged upon all the points raised.

OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE BOAT RACE

THE London public and a whole host of our "country cousins" have been again indebted to the two great Universities for affording them the spectacle of a capital eight-oared boatrace, which took place on the Friday in last week. The occasion may be said to have been invested with additional interest, as on the evening before the event there was a grand gathering at dinner of Old Blues from all parts of the kingdom who had taken part in one or more of the famous series of inter-University contests since the first was decided at Henley as far back as the year 1829. This dinner, which was held at the Freemasons' Tavern under the presidency of Mr. Chitty, Q.C., M.P., was certainly a notable event in connection with the annals of the boat race. Though not strictly a "Jubilee," or a "Fifty-first Anniversary" dinner, as it has been proclaimed, considering the date of the first race, just above given, and the fact that only thirty-eight races in all have been rowed since then, it was a gathering of a most interesting and representative character, "Old Blues" of both shades, well known in Church and State, at the Bar, and on the Bench, being present in goodly numbers, including no less than three members of the first Oxford crew, of whom Dean Merivale was one. On the back of the President's chair was stretched the dark blue and white striped Oxford jersey worn by Bishop Wordsworth, of St. Andrew's, who, with the late Bishop Selwyn, took part in this primeval aquatic duel. The forces and faces of the many veteran oarsmen bore ample testimony against the silly fad that training and rowing have a tendency to shorten life or impair the constitution, and the fact that out of the 484 men who have competed in these races no less than 409 are still alive, should be sufficient to soothe the fears of anxious mamas and sweethearts, and to justify insurance companies in not demanding an extra premium on the lives of zealous young oarsmen.

Turning to the race itself, it will be remembered as being the second in succession which has been rowed at an "ungodly" hour of the morning and in bitterly cold weather, though bright and comparatively calm. It could not be expected that by such a time as 8.30 A.M. many "fashionable" people would put in an appearance, especially as the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race is not "quite the too too" thing it was some years ago, and it is safer now to ask a friend, "Are you going to see the boat race?" instead of as formerly, "regardless of grammar, 'Where are you going to see the race from?'" It was too early also for the vast majority of the lie-a-beds and the idle classes generally, and special correspondents of the dailies and evening papers had, we fear, to borrow somewhat from their imaginations for padding for the reports, as the "fair" and holiday aspect of the proceedings was wonderfully tame. Still the "many-headed" were present, as the late Mr. George Odger would have said, in their thousands, and the thousands, too, of all classes who still love to witness a fair and square athletic contest in which skill, pluck, and endurance are the chief elements. The training of both the crews had been carried out this year under special meteorological difficulties, and, without wishing to speak ungraciously, was considerably behind that of many crews we have seen at Putney within the last decade or so. Oxford were strong favourites from the beginning, partly, we suppose, from the fact that more than half the crew, including their first-rate stroke, Mr. West, were old hands from last year, and so they continued up to the start, though several good judges, both professional and amateur, fancied that the superior weight and strength of the Cambridge men would pull them through. The story of the race is told in a very few words. The start was a very equal one, Oxford having the Middlesex side. For the first half-mile or more, it may be said to have been a neck-and-neck race, both the strokes preserving a masterly self-containment, and their crews rowing admirably in every respect; but before reaching Hammersmith Bridge Oxford, aided a little by somewhat injudicious steering of the Light Blue coxswain, forged ahead, and passed under the tenantless viaduct three-quarters of a length in advance. The Light Blues now put on a determined spurt which, instead of helping

them, caused the rowing to become unsteady and the boat to roll, so that at this point it was settled in the minds of most of the *cognoscenti* that, unless anything unforeseen happened, the race that day was for Oxford. At the upper end of Chiswick Eyot Oxford had still further increased their lead, and notwithstanding the repeated and most plucky spurts of the Cambridge stroke, who deserves the utmost credit for his endeavours to pull the race out of the fire, the Oxonians passed under Barnes Bridge about three lengths ahead, which advantage they maintained to the winning-post. The time of the race is given as 21M. 52S., rather a slow performance, taking all things into consideration. The steering of the Cambridge coxswain certainly gave the Oxford crew some advantage, though it cannot be suggested that it actually influenced the final result. The best crew won. The Cambridge style was not the best adapted for a long punishing course, and they failed in the "swing back" which tells so much when the pinch comes, and which Oxford had so visibly acquired. This, as above mentioned, was the thirty-eighth inter-University race, and leaves a balance of three in favour of Oxford.

By way of postscript we feel sure that many of our aquatic readers will be obliged to us for informing them that last Saturday's *Land and Water* contains a most interesting history of the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race, with all its salient points, from its beginning to the present time, with a fac-simile of an old drawing of the Oxford boat and crew of 1829.



HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Mr. Mapleson's prospectus for the approaching season does not require a long initiatory notice. The "subscription" is limited to twenty nights, and the theatre opens on Saturday, May 7th. There are secessions from each department of the vocal company, some few more or less important. But our chief concern being with what we have to expect, it is useless to look back. Enough that a *troupe* numbering in its ranks Mesdames Christine Nilsson, Lilli Lehmann, Vanzandt, and Etelka Gerster (sopranos), Madame Trebelli, Mdles. Tremelli and Anna di Belocca (contraltos). Signors Campanini, Ravelli, and Fancielli, with Mr. Joseph Maas (tenors), Signors Galassi, Del Puente, Rota, and Nannetti (barytones and basses)—supposing they are at all times ready when their services may be in demand—is assuredly one not to be underestimated. The orchestra and chorus will differ in no material respect from those of last year, except that the duties of conductor are now to be shared between Signor Arditi and Signor Faccio, (from the Scala), whose Milanese instrumentalists won fame and honour at the orchestral tournament in the Paris Trocadéro. Madame Katti Lanner is again directress of the ballet, with Madame Cavalazzi in front of the bevy of Terpsichoreans; while the band of the Scots Guards, led by Mr. J. P. Clarke, is secured for the military music. With regard to novelty in the way of operas to be produced, only one is specified—*Il Riniegato*, music by Baron Bodog Orczy, the chief character in which is assigned to Madame Gerster, a compatriot of the Baron's. So much has been heard about the Hungarian amateur and his work, that it is well to submit it to the test of public opinion. When to this is added *Semiramide*, with Madame Nilsson as the Babylonian Queen, a part she has never previously essayed (which will give special interest to the revival of Rossini's last Italian opera), and, as a matter of course, the reproduction of Boito's *Mefistofele*, which so materially helped the fortunes of the establishment at the end of last summer, further remarks are uncalled for. In any case there is a repertory of thirty-five operas to fall back upon as may be found expedient.

CONCERTS.—Our notice of concerts this week is unavoidably confined to a brief summary. At the Crystal Palace on Saturday a new violinist, M. Tivadar Nachez, who made his first appearance, was much applauded after a by no means remarkable performance of Mendelssohn's concerto, also playing some "Hungarian Gipsy Dances" of his own composition, with orchestral accompaniments. The first piece in the programme was Mr. Walter Macfarren's poetically conceived overture, entitled *Ihero and Leander*, in illustration of that romantic legend; the last being the *Carnaval Romain*, prelude to Act II. of *Benvenuto Cellini*, for the failure of which in Paris and London Berlioz was partially consoled by its subsequent successes at Weimar (under Liszt), Hanover (under Bülow), and other German towns. With both of these Mr. Manns and his orchestra took infinite pains. Mdle. Louisa Pyk (late of Covent Garden), in an *aria* from Mozart's *Figaro*, as well as in *Lieder* by Brahms and Schubert, exhibited a feeling and intelligence cordially recognised by her audience. The feature of the day, however, was one of the most admirable performances of Schumann's C Major Symphony Mr. Manns has ever given us. This alone would have sufficed to fix the occasion in the memory.—The Students' Orchestral Concert at St. James's Hall on Saturday night was worthy of our Royal Academy of Music, signs of real progress being generally observable. In the way of composition there were an overture, *Angiad and Assad*, by Mr. Percy Stranders, a "Credo" by Miss Maude V. White, and an *Andante with Rondo*, for pianoforte, by Miss Alice Borton, who was her own exponent. These all declared talent, the "Credo" of Miss White a talent beyond the ordinary. The *rondo* from Hummel's B minor concerto, with the *Barcarole* and *Presto* from Sterndale Bennett's Concerto No. 4, afforded two other young pianists—Misses Lucy Elam and Elizabeth Foskett—opportunities for distinction of which they took fair advantage; while in the *andante* from Piatto's violoncello concerto Mr. Whitehouse obtained well-merited applause. The first part of Handel's secular oratorio, *Semele*, the execution of which did credit alike to chorus, orchestra, and leading singers—Misses Thudichum, Lewis, and Marian McKenzie, Messrs. Southcote and Pierpoint—engrossed the opening section of the programme. Though produced at Covent Garden Theatre as far back as 1744, *Semele* has rarely been heard since, except in fragments; and for this the subject must be held responsible, a great deal of the music being in Handel's best vein. Few care about Cadmus and his daughter, fewer about Jove's amours and Juno's jealousy, fewest about the superstructure raised by Congreve on the mythological story; but all care for Handel's music, which, notwithstanding these drawbacks, will continue to live and be heard from time to time. It was a bold step on the part of the Academy directors to revive it, and as successful as it was bold. Among other results it has shown us a singer of high promise in Miss Thudichum. In the second part of the concert, other young vocalists won favourable recognition; but we cannot enter into further details. The whole terminated with Mozart's overture to *Figaro*. Mr. W. Shakespeare, the new conductor, proved himself more and more competent for the post he now occupies.—The twenty-fourth season of the Popular Concerts has been brought to an end with appropriate *célébré*. The conspicuous feature on Saturday was the seventeenth and last of Beethoven's quartets (F major, Op. 133), rendered in perfection by MM. Joachim, Ries, Straus, Piatto. Madame Schumann played her late husband's quaint and varied caprice, entitled "Humoreske," and two of Mendelssohn's "Songs Without Words," besides associating herself with Herr Joachim in the "Kreutzer" Sonata of Beethoven (its forty-ninth performance—one to match with any of its precursors). Signor Piatto gave Boccherini's violoncello Sonata in A major, which he first introduced in 1862, and has now repeated nineteen times. The

vocalist was Herr von Zur Müllen, who sang "Lieder" by Schubert and Schumann, which precisely suit his style and method. On Monday evening, it being "the director's benefit," the programme was more discursive than on other occasions. There was one item, however, to suit the most uncompromising "classical" taste—viz., Beethoven's 10th quartet (E flat), a bridge, it may be said, that separates his second period from his first; the so-denominated "Harfen-Quartett," in short. Herr Joachim led this in such a manner as to bring more vividly to the minds of all present that nearly a twelvemonth must elapse before they would hear him again. In the interpretation of these later quartets of Beethoven the Hungarian violinist stands alone; and this was never more convincingly shown than on the present occasion. To cite only a single movement, the deeply impressive *adagio* sounded like music from another sphere. Madame Schumann's performance of Schumann's very difficult *Carneval* was, as always, wonderful in technique and varied expression, communicating to each link in the fantastic chain its due significance. One of Spohr's melodious duets for violins, performed, after Spohr's own way, by Joachim and Straus, raised general interest; as did a *gigue* by Bach and *presto* by Scarlatti, assigned to Miss Agnes Zimmermann, who has such music at her fingers' ends.

WATFS.—At last a work by the much-talked-of Signor Ponchielli has been heard in this country. An English version of his opera, *I Promessi Sposi*, was produced in Birmingham a week ago by the Carl Rosa Company, the leading members of which took part in the performance. It was received with great favour—which, perhaps, may lead to its introduction at one of our London Italian houses.—The Grand Théâtre at Montpellier has been burnt to the ground, only the bare walls remaining. The opera (*Hamlet*) had finished at midnight, and an hour later the fire broke out; so that no lives were sacrificed. Incendiarism is suspected.—The concert at the Paris Trocadéro in aid of the sufferers by the Nice disaster, realised the handsome sum of 70,000 francs.

THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS

ALTHOUGH it contains very few figure pictures of importance, the Spring Exhibition at the Gallery in Pall Mall East is by no means deficient in variety and interest. Almost all the landscape and marine painters belonging to the Society are represented, and many of them by works of exceptional interest. It is long since Mr. Samuel Palmer, one of the oldest members of the Society, and perhaps the most poetical of English landscape painters, has exhibited anything so important as his two pictures, "The Prospect" (18), and the "Eastern Gate" (56), suggested by passages in Milton's "L'Allegro." It will be readily understood that these are not direct transcripts of nature, but studied compositions, thoroughly classical in feeling, and in a sense conventional. They are, however, admirable examples of the class of Art to which they belong, perfectly balanced in composition without formality, and impressive by reason of their subdued splendour of colour, and the simple grandeur of the natural forms.

A strong contrast to this abstract kind of work is presented in Mr. H. Moore's "Light Breezes" (13). Among the numerous pictures of the sea by this painter we remember none more vividly suggestive of natural effect. His smaller drawing, "Inshore Breakers" (139), is, however, not inferior to it; in both the sense of movement in the waves is conveyed with surprising power. Another most accomplished marine painter, Mr. F. Powell, appears to great advantage. His "Opposite the Setting Sun" (24), showing a vast expanse of calm sea with a few sails glowing with the warm light of the evening sun, is a work of great beauty, full of most delicate modulations of colour, and vividly conveying the impression of space. In a smaller picture, "Neering Port" (19), Mr. Powell has represented the characteristic movements of the waves and the craft under the influence of a fresh breeze with extraordinary force and fidelity. Mr. A. Goodwin sends a spacious and airy sea-coast picture, "A Summer Sea, Mount's Bay" (37), enlivened by numerous figures, true in effect, and painted with more than his accustomed breadth and vigour. By Mr. E. Duncan there is a drawing of "Jersey Fishing Boats Getting Under Weigh" (50) in his usual finished style; and by Mr. A. D. Frapp, a little picture of a group of children near the edge of a cliff, "Mending Nets" (103), in which the appearance of illuminated mist is admirably rendered. Mr. Oswald Brierly's large drawing of "The Decisive Battle Fought off Gravesend between the English Fleet and the Spanish Armada, August 8th, 1588" (74), though somewhat scenic and artificial, displays considerable technical ability.

The landscapes by the older members of the Society are, with few exceptions, small, but not therefore unimportant. Mr. A. W. Hunt's true perception of natural effect is shown in "A Fine Evening at Whitby" (91), and in a scene of gloomy grandeur, "Glen Sligaghan, Skye" (124). Mr. G. Frapp sends several little drawings, all remarkable for their sobriety of style and perfect draughtsmanship—their delicacy and truth of tone. "Sonning Weir" (97), and "Corrie on Loch Kishorn" (162) are perhaps the best, but the others are almost equally good. The same sincerity of style and rigid adherence to actual fact are to be seen in Mr. G. P. Boyce's delicately wrought little drawings "In the Auvergne" (193), and "In the Puy de Dome" (195). Two upright landscapes with rustic figures, "The Stepping Stones" (9), and "An Old Water Mill" (15) by Mr. Birket Foster, are bright in tone and full of carefully-studied detail, but not entirely free from mannerism. Mr. A. Glennie sends a "View from the Steps of San Giovanni in Laterano" (2), ably painted and true in local colour; and Mr. E. A. Goodall, a picture "Under the Shadow of the Great Pyramid" (7), in which the effect of bright sunlight is forcibly rendered.

Several drawings by Mr. W. M. Hale show a true perception of natural beauty as well as a fine sense of colour. His sylvan scene, "Autumn Twilight," is especially noteworthy for its combined delicacy and strength of treatment, its subtle gradations of tone and general harmony. Work of a broader and more effective kind, but not the less good in its way, is to be seen in Mr. T. J. Watson's large "Wooded Landscape" (53). Besides being fresh in tone and strongly suggestive of daylight, the picture is remarkable for the correct drawing of the branches of trees and the realistic force with which the foreground objects are painted. The picture moreover is in excellent keeping, and is free from the tendency to blackness in the shadows observable in some of the artist's other drawings. Mr. E. A. Waterlow sends several small pastoral landscapes, full of refinement and beauty; and Mr. Herbert Marshall two broadly painted, and apparently faithful records of the aspect of the Thames in winter—"A Frozen Highway" (1), and "Near Waterloo Bridge" (146). Mr. Wilmot Pilsbury, who makes his first appearance here, fully justifies his election as an Associate by a series of small drawings, all displaying the most faithful adherence to Nature and finished workmanship. They are painted moreover in the right method, with little or no body colour, and are consequently pure in colour and transparent.

In the present collection figure subjects hold a comparatively unimportant place. A picture of moderate size, by Sir John Gilbert, "Gipsy Encampment" (113), though not very interesting as regards subject, displays in an eminent degree his skill in grouping, his feeling for picturesque beauty, and masterly power of handling. The landscape, which is scarcely less important than the figures, is painted with surprising vigour. By Mr. W. C. T. Dobson there is an admirably modelled head of a young girl with flowers in her hair, "Christmas Roses" (121); and by Mr. Carl Haag, two forcibly-painted Oriental scenes, "Sheikh Ali" (100) and "A Night in Egypt" (110), strongly resembling some of his

previous works both in subject and treatment. A picture of the idyllic class, "The Harvest Moon" (178), by Mr. Tom Lloyd, represents a party of girls singing as they return from gleaning by twilight. The figures are very gracefully designed, and are in perfect harmony with the inanimate features of the scene. Mr. Norman Tayler's large drawing, "The Peace-Maker" (183), in which a young wife is seen trying to dissuade her husband from engaging in a brawl outside a village ale-house, is well conceived and ably treated. The heads might, perhaps, be more expressive, but the various figures are genuine types of rustic character, and their gestures natural and impulsive. The picture is a little morbid in colour, but it is entitled to high praise for its well-balanced composition, its correct design, and careful workmanship.

MISS FRERE'S SOUTH AFRICAN SKETCHES

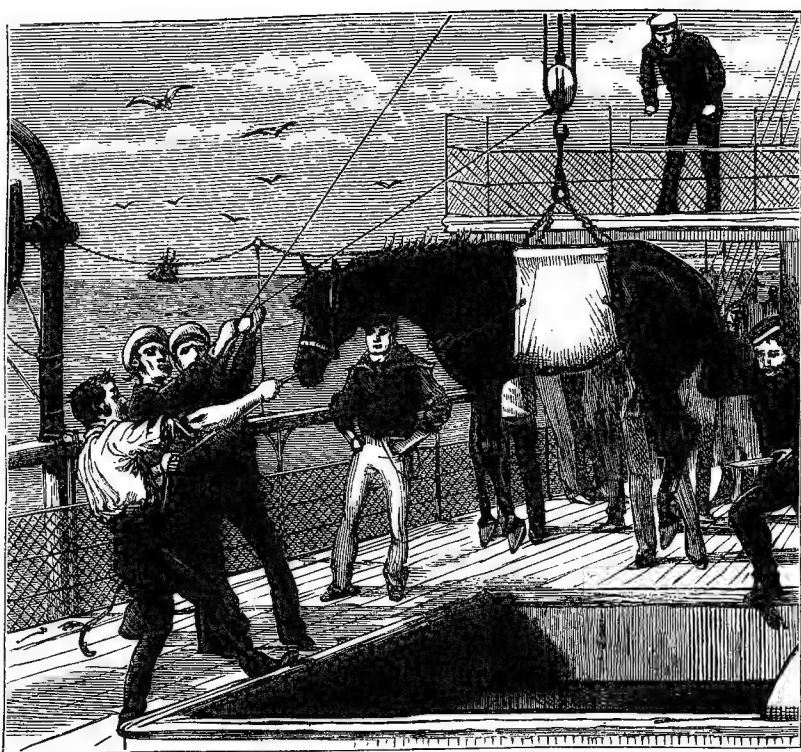
AT the Librairie de L'Art, 134, New Bond Street, a small but very interesting exhibition is now open, consisting of drawings and sketches made by Miss Catherine Frere (daughter of Sir Bartle Frere) during a long residence in South Africa. That these are the work of an artist of more than ordinary ability is attested by the fact that some of them obtained a bronze medal at the Paris International Exhibition of 1878. They include landscape studies, picturesque street scenes, characteristic sketches of figures, and elaborate drawings of flowers, and are scarcely less varied in treatment than in subject. The largest of them—a comprehensive view of "Simon's Bay from Red Hill," as it appeared on June 15th, 1879—is the property of the Queen, who has lent it for exhibition. It is executed throughout with the most conscientious care, and has every appearance of being a faithful reproduction of the scene. The drawings of the "Table Mountain" and "The Orange Groves at Wagenmaaker's Vlei" also bear evidence of close observation and careful study of Nature. Miss Frere is, however, seen to more advantage in her sketches of some of the quaint examples of the seventeenth-century Dutch architecture which still exist in the streets of Cape Town. Some of them, including "The Barracks" and the picturesque entrance to "The Masonic Lodge in Roeland Street," are full of local colour, and appear to have been painted directly from Nature. The figure sketches, too, are spirited and characteristic, especially those of "Jerome, a Malay Driver," and "Midge, a Zulu Girl." A series of drawings of the various flowers that exist in South Africa forms an important feature of the collection. These are all executed with extraordinary care and completeness, their vivid and delicately modulated tints being faithfully reproduced, and their varying forms being drawn with an amount of accuracy that implies a thorough scientific knowledge of their structure. The proceeds of the exhibition are to be devoted to the South African Colonial Relief Fund, towards which we are informed the sum of 2,000*l.* has already been subscribed. The Exhibition was visited on the 30th ult. by their Royal Highnesses the Princess Beatrice and the Duchess of Connaught, while the Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud of Wales were present at the private view. The Duke of Cambridge, the Princess Mary of Teck, and a large number of distinguished personages have also paid a visit to Miss Frere's collection.

HEAD-HUNTING IN BORNEO.—A new book on the habits and customs of the people of Borneo is promised by Mr. Carl Bock, who has recently returned from a prolonged exploration in that interesting and but little-known region. Mr. Bock, as leader of the Dutch Government Exploring Expedition, had peculiar facilities for making a careful study of the country and the people in the south-eastern portion of the great island, and it is said that he here discovered a race of "white" Dyaks inhabiting the depths of the forest. Mr. Bock's book will include an account of the terribly mysterious institution of "head hunting," as practised by the savage Borneans. It will not, however, be the first time that the British public have been enlightened on this subject. Forty years ago, when Sir James Brooke made himself famous as "Rajah of Sarawak," he published at length his observations and experiences with the natives, and amongst other matters he gives us the thrilling particulars of a battle between the Sigo Dyaks and the Singes. It seems that when a Bornean warrior kills one of the enemy in battle he is not content, in the American-Indian fashion, to take the scalp, he must have the entire head, and this he suspends with a bit of bark cord round his neck. From that moment he is absolved from further active duty in the field, and may hasten back to his family with all speed to acquaint them with his good luck and exhibit his trophy. After it has been carried round the village, with singing and dancing, it is hung, with other captured heads, against the post of the palaver house, and when the army returns the warriors assemble, and there is great rejoicing, and glowing speeches are made. The object of addressing the heads is to induce the spirit of the slain, which is supposed to be hovering near the decapitated cranium, to beguile its countrymen into the hands of the enemy, so that more heads may be obtained to keep company with those already on the wall.

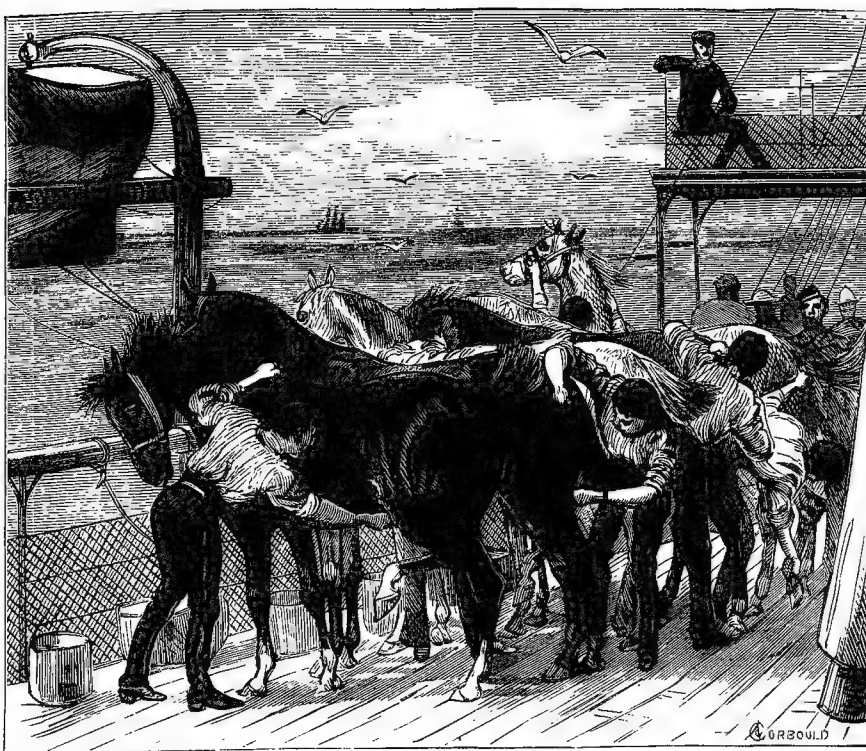
THE LIGHT OF OTHER DAYS.—Manifest are the advantages which will attend the universal adoption of the electric light to the by-ways as well as the highways of the metropolis. The occupation of the housebreaker and burglar may not quite be gone, but it cannot fail to be seriously interfered with. A few nights since a pickpocket was taken red-handed in the neighbourhood of St. Paul's, when, but for the tell-tale glare, he most likely would have escaped. The case had its amusing side, as was recognised by the unlucky thief himself, who laughingly described it as "a dead take-in." It was the first night of the new illumination, and, probably like many more of the pocket-picking fraternity, he had thought to do profitable business amongst the consequent crowd. But he left out of his reckoning one important factor—the light itself. There were the people and there were the pockets, but the magic lanterns on every side deprived night of its cloak, and cast their beams on furtive fingers. At the very first "dip" the purse-flicker was pounced on by a bystander who had observed the attempted theft, and handed him over to safe custody. But it is not only from street robbery at night from the person that the electric light should protect us. There never were such piping times for the burglar as before gas was invented. He can ply his nefarious trade only under cover of darkness, and this denied him, he will at last be driven to take up with some other branch of the criminal business of less ugly complexion. It is found by goldsmiths, and others whose stock-in-trade consists of valuable portable property, that the best safeguard against midnight marauders is to keep their shop windows shutterless, with a light burning within, so that the whole interior of the premises may be visible to the policeman on beat. With our chief business thoroughfares flooded with light, so that at midnight they will be bright almost as at noonday, such precaution will be unnecessary, and the suburb-sojourning citizen may sleep in peace, his slumbers undisturbed by dreams of Mr. William Sikes with his picklock and crowbar.

TEETOTALISM IN LEEDS.—Unmistakeable signs and tokens point to the fact that the Teetotal party do not mean to let the present Parliamentary Session slip by without once more urging their claims on the Legislature. A great meeting has been held under the presidency of the Mayor, Mr. Alderman Chamberlain, and at which Sir Wilfrid Lawson declared his intention to move in the House of Commons for Local Option, and that he should press it as a measure of "urgency." Provincial mayors generally are bestirring themselves to the same end. Since the Birmingham demonstration a gathering of a noted character has taken place at

(Continued on page 382)



SLINGING HORSES TO UPPER DECK FOR EXERCISE AND GROOMING

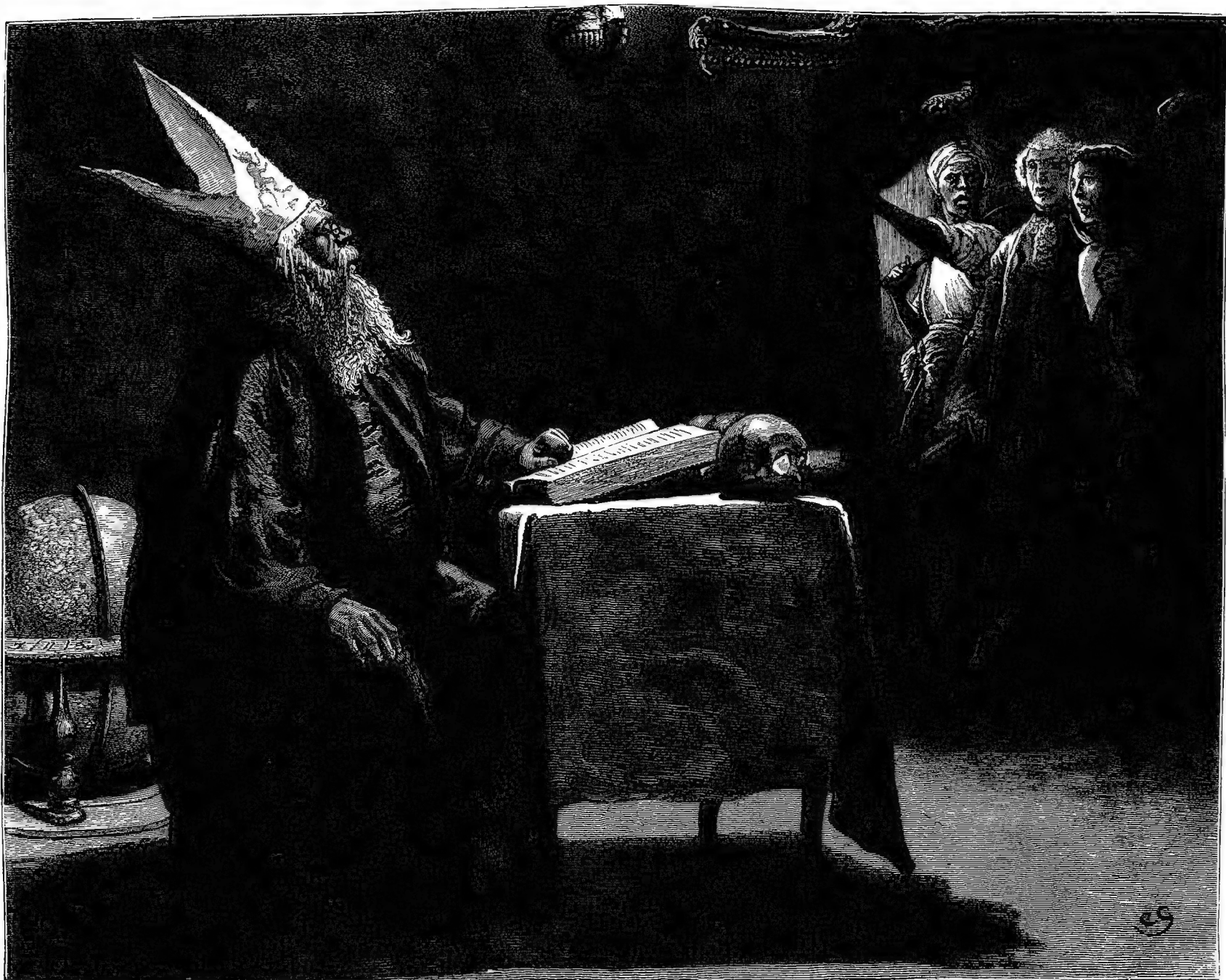


"MORNING STABLES" ON THE UPPER DECK



COALING BY NIGHT OFF FUNCHAL, MADEIRA

LIFE ON BOARD A MILITARY TRANSPORT VESSEL



DRAWN BY CHARLES GREEN

There was also a great book—doubtless the Book of Fate—upon the table. Behind it sat the Sage himself.

THE CHAPLAIN OF THE FLEET

BY WALTER BESANT AND JAMES RICE,

AUTHORS OF "READY-MONEY MORTIBOY," "BY CELIA'S ARBOUR," "THE MONKS OF THELEMA," ETC., ETC.

CHAPTER XV.

HOW NANCY HAD A QUICK TONGUE

THIS was at once a sad and yet most joyful confession. For while the girl who read it was full of shame and terror in thinking of his righteous wrath and loathing, yet the tender love which filled the pages and fired her soul with wonder and rejoicing forbade her to believe that love was not stronger than wrath. She was so ignorant and inexperienced, the girl who joined in this treacherous deed; she was so dominated by the will of that masterful man, her uncle; she was so taken by surprise—surely, when he learned these things, he would forgive the past.

But should she tell him at once?

It would be better to tell him than that he should find it out. There were many ways in which he could find it out. Oh, the shame of being found out, the meanness of taking all his secrets and giving none! Roger, the doctor's man, might for a bribe, were the bribe heavy enough to outweigh his fear of the doctor, tell the name of the bride; the doctor might think the time come when he should step forward and reveal the secret; even there was danger that his lordship might remember the name which he had seen but once, and ask me sternly if there were upon the earth two Kitty Pleydells, of the same age, the same height, and the same face. And what should I say then?

Stimulated by this thought, as by the touch of a sharp spur, I procured an inkstand and paper, and began to write a letter of confession.

"MY LORD,"

What to say next?

"MY LORD,"

In what words to clothe a most shameful story?

We cheat ourselves; we do one thing and call it another; we stop the voice of conscience by misrepresenting our actions; and whereas we ought to be weighed down by the burden of our sins, we carry ourselves confidently, with light hearts, as if we had done nothing to be ashamed of. It is only when our crimes are set forth in plain English that we know them for the shameful things they are. What was I to tell my lord?

A girl, brought up in the fear of God and His commandments, can be so weak as to obey a man who ordered her to do a wicked thing. Could she be, afterwards, so cowardly as not to tell the man whom she had thus injured, even when she knew that he loved her? A wicked crime and a course of deceit! How could I frame the words so as to disarm that righteous wrath?

"MY LORD,

"It has been for a long time upon my conscience to tell you a thing which you ought to know before you waste one more thought upon the unworthy person to whom you addressed a confession. That confession, indeed, depicted your lordship with such fidelity as to make me the more ashamed to unburden my conscience. Know, then, that—"

Here I stopped, with trembling fingers which refused to move.

"Know that"—what? That I was his wicked and unworthy wife, the creature whom most of all he must hate and despise.

I could not tell him—not then. No; it must be told by word of mouth, with such extenuating phrases and softening of details as might present themselves to my troubled mind.

I tore the letter into a thousand fragments. Was girl ever so bested? That sacred bond of union which brings happy lovers together, the crown of courtship, the end of wooing, the Marriage Service itself, was the thing which kept us asunder.

I would tell him—later on. There would come an opportunity. I would make the opportunity, somewhere, at some time. Yes; the best way would be to wait till we were alone, it should be in the evening, when my face and his would be partly veiled by the night; then I could whisper the story, and ask his forgiveness.

But that opportunity never came, as will be presently seen.

After morning prayers, that day we walked upon the Terrace, where the company were, as usual, assembled, and all talking together below the trees. I held in my hand the manuscript of my lord's confession. Presently we saw him slowly advancing to meet us, wearing a grave and melancholy look. But then he was never one of those who think that the duties of life are to be met with a reckless laugh.

"Even in laughter," said the Wise Man, "the heart is sorrowful; and the end of that mirth is heaviness."

"Dear Miss Pleydell," whispered Peggy Baker as he appeared, "can his lordship have repented already of what he said beneath the trees last night? The poor young gentleman wears a heavy countenance this morning."

It was best to make no answer to this raillery. Let her say what she would; I cared nothing, and was too heavy myself to make reply. I would neither help nor hinder. Then, leaving Mrs. Esther with the party, I advanced boldly and met my lord, returning him his manuscript before the eyes of all.

Everybody stared, wondering what could be the packet I placed in his hands; he, however, received it with a low bow, and accompanied me to my party, saying nothing for the moment.

The music was playing its loudest, and as we walked, my lord beside me, and Mrs. Esther with Lady Levett—Nancy remaining behind to exchange insinuations and pert speeches (in which the saucy damsel took great delight) with Peggy Baker. I looked back and saw their heads wagging, while the bystanders smiled, and presently Peggy fanned herself, with agitation in her face, by which it was easy to conclude that Nancy had said something more than unusually biting, to which her opponent had, for the moment, no reply ready.

"You have read these papers?" asked my lord, and that in as careless a tone as if they contained nothing of importance.

"Yes," I said, "I have read the sad story. But I pity the poor woman who was persuaded to do your lordship this grievous wrong."

"I think she needs and deserves little of our pity," he replied.

"And as for persuasion, it could have wanted but little with a woman so designing as to join in such a plot."

A designing woman! Poor Kitty!

Then I tried, beating about the bush, to bring his mind round to see the possibility of a more charitable view.

"Remember, my lord, two things. This Doctor Shovel could not have known of your coming. The plot, therefore, was swiftly conceived, and as quickly carried into execution. You have told me in your paper—I entreat you, my lord, burn it with all speed—that this man's influence over you was so great as to coerce you (because your brain was not in its natural clearness) into doing and suffering, what, at ordinary times, you would have rejected with scorn. Bethink you, then, with charity, that this Dr. Shovel, this so-called Chaplain of the Fleet, may have found some poor girl, over whom he had authority, and in like manner coerced and forced her to join with him in this most wicked plot."

"You would make excuses," he said, "for the greatest of sinners. I doubt not that. But this story is too improbable. I cannot think that any woman could be so coerced against her will."

I sighed.

"My lord, I beg you to remember your promise to me. You will not leave Epsom without first telling me: you will not seek out this man, this Dr. Shovel, or quarrel with him, or do ought to increase his malice. Meantime, I am feeble, being only a woman, and bound in obedience and duty to my guardian and protectress. Yet I bethink me of an old fable. The lion was one day caught in the coils of a net, and released by the teeth of a—"

He started.

"What does this mean? Oh, Kitty! what can you do?"

"I do not know. Yet, perhaps I may be able to release you from the coils of this net. Have patience, my lord."

"Kitty!"

"Let us speak no more about it for the moment," I replied.

"Perhaps, my lord, if my inquiries lead to the result you desire—it is Christian to forgive your enemies—"

"I cannot understand you," he replied. "How should you—how should any one release me? Truly, if deliverance came, forgiveness were a small thing to give."

CHAPTER XVI.

HOW SPED THE MASQUERADE

It was at this time that the company at Epsom held their masquerade, the greatest assembly of the season, to which not only the visitors at the Wells, but also the gentry from the country around, and many from London, came; so that the inns and lodging-houses overflowed, and some were fain to be content to find a bed over shops and in the mean houses of the lower sort. Nay, there were even many who put up tents on the Downs, and slept in them like soldiers on a campaign.

At other times my head would have been full of the coming festivity, but the confession of my lord, and the uncertainty into which it threw my spirits, prevented my paying that attention to the subject which its importance demanded.

"Kitty," cried Nancy, "I have talked to you for half an hour, and you have not heard one word. Oh, how a girl is spoiled the moment she falls in love! Don't start, my dear, nor blush, unless you like, because there is no one here but ourselves. As for that, all the place knows that you and Lord Chudleigh are in love with each other, though Peggy Baker will have it that it is mostly on one side. 'My dear,' she said at the book-shop yesterday, 'the woman shows her passion in a manner which makes a heart of sensibility blush for her sex.' Don't get angry, Kitty, because I was there, and set her down as she deserved. 'Dear me!' I said, 'we have not all of us the sensibility of Miss Peggy Baker, who, if all reports are true, has had time to get over the passion she once exhibited for the handsome Lord Chudleigh.' Why, my dear, how can any one help seeing that the women are monstrous jealous, and my lord is in so deep a quagmire of love, that nothing but the marriage-ring (which cures the worst cases) can pull him out?"

I had, in verity, been thinking over my troubles, while Nancy was thinking over her frocks. Now I roused myself and listened.

"My mother will go as the Queen of Sheba. She will wear a train over her hoop, a paper crown, a sceptre, and have two black boys to walk behind her. That will show who she is. I am to go as Joan of Arc, with a sword in my hand, but not to wear it dangling at my side, lest it cause me to fall down; Peggy Baker will be Venus, the Goddess of Love. She will have a golden belt, and a little Cupid is to follow her with bow and arrows, which he is to shoot, or pretend to shoot, at the company. She will sprawl and languish in her most bewitching manner, the dear creature; but since she has failed with Lord Eardesley there is nobody at Epsom good enough for her. I hear she goes very shortly to Bath, where no doubt she will catch a nabob. I hope his liver and temper will be good. Oh! and Mr. Stallabras will go as a Greek pastoral poet, Theo, something—I forget his name—with a lyre in one hand and a shepherd's crook in the other. Harry Temple is to go as Vulcan; you will know him by his limp and by the hammer upon his shoulder. Sir Miles wants to go as the God of Cards, but no one seems to know who that deity was. My father says he shall go as a plain English country gentleman, because he sees so few among the company that the sight may do them good."

I was going as the Goddess of Night, because I wanted to have an excuse for wearing a domino all the evening, most of the ladies throwing them aside early in the night. My dress was a long black velvet hood, covering me from head to foot, without hoops, and my hair dressed low, so that the hood could cover the head and be even pulled down over the face. At first I wanted my lord to find out by himself the *incognita* who had resolved to address him; but he asked me to tell him beforehand, and to be sure I could refuse him nothing.

The splendour of the lights was even greater than that at Lord Chudleigh's entertainment, when he lit up the lawn among the trees with coloured oil lamps. Yet the scene lacked the awful contrast of the dark and gloomy wood behind, in which, as one retired to talk, the music seemed out of place, and the laughter of the gay throng impertinent. Here there was no dark wood or shade of venerable trees to distract the thoughts from the gaiety of the moment, or sadden by a contrast of the long-lived forest with the transitory crowd who danced beneath the branches, as careless as a cloud of midges on the river-bank, born to buzz away their little hour, know hope, fear, and love, feel pain, be cut off prematurely at their twentieth minute, or wear on to a green old age and die at the protracted term of sixty minutes.

The Terrace and the New Parade were hung with festoons of coloured lamps. There must have been thousands of them in graceful arches from branch to branch; the doors of the Assembly Rooms had columns and arches of coloured lamps set up beside and over them; there were porches of coloured lamps, a temple of coloured lamps beside the watch-house at the edge of the pond, where horns were stationed to play while the music rested; in the Rooms was, of course, to be dancing; and, which was the greatest attraction, there were amusements of various kinds, almost as if one was at a country fair, without the crowding of the rustics, the fighting with quarterstaves, the grinning through horse-collars, the climbing of greasy poles, and the shouting. I have always, since that evening, longed for the impossible, namely, a country fair without the country people. Why can we not have, all to ourselves, and away from a noisy mob of ill-bred and rough people, the amusements of the fair, the stalls with the gingerbread, Richardson's Theatre with a piece addressed to eyes and ears of sensibility, a wax-work, dancing and riding people, and clowns?

Here the presenters of the masquerade had not, it is true, provided all these amusements; but there were some; an Italian came to exhibit dancing puppets, called *fantoccini*; a conjuror promised to perform tricks and swallow red-hot coals, which is truly a most wonderful feat, and makes one believe in the power of magic, else how could the tender throat sustain the violence of the fire? a girl was to dance upon the tight-rope; and a sorcerer or magician or astrologer was to be seated in a grotto to tell the fortunes of all who chose to search into the future.

Nothing could be gayer or more beautiful than the assemblage gathered together beneath these lighted lamps or in the Assembly Rooms in the evening. Mrs. Esther was the only lady without some disguise; Sir Robert, whose dress has been already sufficiently indicated, gave her his arm for the evening. All the dresses were as Nancy told me. I knew Venus by her golden cestus and her Cupid armed (he was, indeed, the milk-boy); and beneath the domino I could guess, without having been told, that no other than Peggy Baker swam and languished. Surely it is great presumption for a woman to call herself the Goddess of Beauty. Harry Temple was fine as Vulcan, though he generally forgot to go lame; he bore a real blacksmith's hammer on his shoulder; but I am certain that Vulcan never wore so modish a wig with so gallant a tie behind. And his scowls, meant for me, were not out of keeping with his character. Nancy Levett was the sweetest Joan of Arc ever seen, and skipped about to the admiration of everybody, with a cuirass and a sword, although the real Joan, who was, I believe, a village maid, probably wore a stuff frock instead of Nancy's silk, and I dare say hoops were not in fashion in her days. Nor would she have lace mittens or silk shoes, but bare hands and wooden sandals. Nor would she powder

her hair and dress it up two feet high, but rather wear it plain, blown about by the winds, washed by the rain, and curling as Nature pleased. As for Mr. Stallabras, it did one good to see him as Theophrastus, nose in air, shepherd's crook on shoulder, lyre in hand, in a splendid purple coat and wig newly combed and tied behind, illustrating the dignity and grandeur of genius. The Queen of Sheba's black pages (they were a loan from a lady in London), attracted general attention. You knew her for a queen by her crown. There were, however, other queens, all of whom wore crowns; and it was difficult sometimes to know which Queen was designed if you failed to notice the symbol which distinguished one from the other. Thus Queen Elizabeth of England, who bore on a little flag the motto "*Dux femina facit*," was greatly indignant when Harry Temple mistook her for Cleopatra, whose asp was for the moment hidden. Yet so good a scholar ought to have known, because Cleopatra ran away at Actium, and therefore could not carry such a motto, while Elizabeth conquered in the Channel. Then it was hard at first sight to distinguish between Julius Cæsar, Hannibal, Timor the Tartar, Luther, Alfred, and Caractacus, because they were all dressed very much alike, save that Luther carried a book, Alfred a sceptre, Cæsar a short sword, Timour a pike, Hannibal a marshal's *bâton*, and Caractacus a bludgeon. The difficulties and mistakes, however, mattered little, because, when the first excitement of guessing a character was over, one forgot about the masquerade and remembered the ball. Yet it was vexatious when a man had dressed carefully for, say Charles the First, to be mistaken for Don Quixote or Euripides, who wore the same wigs.

I say nothing of the grotesque dresses with masks and artificial heads, introduced by some of the young Templars. They amused, as such things do, for a while, and until one became accustomed to them. Then their pranks ceased to amuse. It is a power peculiar to man that he can continue to laugh at horse-play, buffoonery, and low humour for hours, while a woman is content to laugh for five minutes, if she laughs at all. I believe that the admirers of those coarse and unfeeling books, "Tom Jones" and "Humphrey Clinker" are entirely men.

All the ladies began by wearing masks, and a few of the men. One of them personated a shepherd in lamentation for the loss of his mistress; that is to say, he wore ribbons of black and crimson tied in bows about his sleeve, and carried a pastoral hook decorated with the same colours. In this character some of the company easily recognised Lord Chudleigh; and when he led out for the first minuet a tall, hooded figure, in black velvet, some thought they recognised Kitty Pleydell.

"But why is he in mourning?" asked Peggy Baker, who understood what was meant. "She cannot have denied him. He must have another mistress for whom he has put on the black ribbons. Poor Kitty! we are all of us sorry for her. Yet pride still goes before a fall."

No one knew what was meant except Lord Chudleigh's partner, the figure in black velvet.

"I suppose," continued Peggy, alluding to the absence of my hoops, "that she wants to show how a woman would look without the aid of art. I call it, for my part, odious!"

After the minuet we left the dancers and walked beneath the lighted lamps on the Terrace. Presently the music ceased for a while, and the horns outside began to play.

"Kitty," whispered my lord, "you used strange words the other night. Were they anything but a kind hope for the impossible? Could they mean anything beyond an attempt to console a despairing man?"

"No," I replied. "They were more than a hope. But as yet I cannot say more. Oh, my lord! let me enjoy a brief hour of happiness, if it should die away and come to nothing."

I have said that part of the entertainment was a magician's cave. We found ourselves opposite the entrance of this place. People were going in and coming out—or, more correctly, people were waiting outside for their turn to go in; and those who came out appeared either elated beyond measure with the prophecies they had heard, or depressed beyond measure. Some of the girls had tears in their eyes—they were those to whom he had denied a lover; some came out bounding and leaping with joy—they were the maidens to whom he had promised a husband and children dear. Some of the young men came out with head erect and smiling lips, I suppose the wizard had told them of fortune, honour, long life, health, and love—things which every young man must greatly desire. Some came out with angry frowns and lips set sternly, as if resolved to meet adverse fortune with undaunted courage—which is, of course, the only true method. But I fear the evening's happiness was destroyed for those luckless swains and nymphs, the lamps would grow dim, the music lose its gladness, the wine its sparkle.

"Let us, my lord," I said, little thinking of what was to happen within the cave—"Let us, too, consult the oracle, and learn the future."

At first he refused, saying, gravely, that to inquire of wise men or wise women was the sin of Saul with the witch of Endor; that whatever might have happened in olden time, as in the case of the Delphic oracles or the High Places, where they came to inquire of Baal or Moloch, there was now no voice from the outer world nor any communication from the stars, or from good spirits or from evil.

"Therefore," he said, "we waste our time, sweet Kitty, in idly asking questions of this man, who knows no more than we know ourselves."

"Then," I asked, "let us go in curiosity, because I have never seen a wizard, and I know not what he is like. You, I am sure, will keep me safe from harm, whatever frightful creature he may be."

So without thinking I led the way to the Wizard's Cave.

It stood in the Parade, beneath the trees; at the doors were assembled a crowd of the masqueraders, either waiting their turn or discussing the reply of the oracle; the entrance, before which was a heavy curtain, double, was guarded by a negro, armed with an immense cutlass, which he ever and anon whirled round his head, the light falling on the bright steel, so that it seemed like a ring of fire, behind which gleamed his two eyes, as bright as a panther's eyes, and his teeth, as white as polished ivory. The sight of him made some of the women retreat, and refuse to go in at all.

The wise man received only one couple at a time; but when the pair then with him emerged, the negro stepped forward, and beckoned to us, though it was not our turn to enter the cave. I observed that the last pair came out with downcast eyes. I think I am as free from superstition as any woman, yet I needs must remark, in spite of my lord's disbelief in magic or astrology, that the unhappy young man whose fortune this wizard told (an evil fortune, as was apparent from his face) ran away with the girl who was with him (an honest City merchant's daughter), and having got through his whole stock, took to the road, and was presently caught, tried, sentenced, and hanged in chains on Bagshot Heath, where those who please may go and see him. With such examples before one it is hard not to believe in the conjurer and the wise woman, just as a thousand instances might be alleged for any woman's experience to prove that it is unlucky to spill salt (without throwing some over your left shoulder), or to dream of crying children, or to cross two knives upon a plate—with many other things which are better not learned, would one wish to live a tranquil life.

What they called the Wizard's Cave was a little building constructed specially for the occasion, of rude trunks of trees, laid one upon the other, the interstices filled up with moss, to imitate a hermitage or monkish cell; a gloomy abode, consecrated to superstition and horrid rites. The roof seemed to be made of thatch, but I think that was only an illusion produced by the red light of an oil-lamp, which

hung in the middle, and gave a soft and flickering, yet lurid light, around the hut. There was hung up beside the lamp, and on the right hand, the skin of a grisly crocodile, stuffed, the sight of which filled me with a dreadful apprehension, and made me, ever after, reflect on the signal advantages possessed by those who dwell in a land where such monsters are unknown. A table stood in the middle, on which, to my horror, were three grinning skulls in a row; and in each they had placed a lamp of different colours, so that through the eye-holes of one there came a green, of another a red, and of the third a blue light, very horrible and diabolical to behold.

There was also a great book—doubtless the Book of Fate—upon the table. Behind it sat the Sage himself. He was a man with a big head covered with grey hair, which hung down upon his shoulders long and unkempt, and with a tall mitre, which had mysterious characters engraved upon it, and between the letters what seemed in the dim light to be flames and devils—the fit occupants of this abominable place. He wore spectacles and a great Turkish beard, frightful and Saracenic of aspect.

I thought of the witch of Endor, of those who practised divinations, and of the idolatrous practices on High Places and in groves, and I trembled lest the fate of the Prophets of Baal might also be that of the profane inquirers. Outside, the music played and the couples were dancing.

The Wizard looked up as we stood before him. Behind the blue spectacles and the great beard, even in the enormous head, I recognised nothing and suspected nothing; but when he spoke, and in deep sonorous tones called my companion by his name:—

"Lord Chudleigh, what wilt thou inquire of the oracle?"

Then indeed I turned giddy and faint, and should have fallen, but my lord caught me by the waist.

"Be sooth, Kitty," he whispered. "Here is nothing to fright us but the mummery of a foolish masquerade or the roguery of a rascal quack. Calm yourself."

Alas! I feared no more the crocodile, nor the horrid death's heads, nor the Turkish beard, nor the mitre painted with devils—if they were devils. They disquieted me at first sight, it is true; but now was I in deadly terror, for I knew and feared the voice. It was no other than the voice of the Doctor, the Chaplain of the Fleet. For what trouble, what mischief, was he here?

Then I recovered, saying to myself: "Kitty, be firm. Resolve by neither act nor word to do harm to thy lover. Consent not to any snare. Be resolute and alert."

Lord Chudleigh, seeing me thus composed, stepped forward to the table and said:

"Sir Magician, Wizard, Conjuror, or whatever name best befits you, for you and your pretended science I care not one jot, nor do I believe but that it is imposture and falsehood. Perhaps, however, you are but acting a part in the masquerade. But the young lady hath a desire to see what you do, and to ask you a question or two."

"Your lordship must own that I know your name, in spite of your domino."

"Tut, tut! everybody here knows my name, whether I wear a domino or take it off. That is nothing. You are probably one of the company in disguise."

"You doubt my power? Then, without your leave, my lord, permit me to tell you a secret known to me, yourself, and one or two others only. It is a secret which no one has yet whispered about; none of the company at the Wells know it; it is a great secret: an important secret—all this time his voice kept growing deeper and deeper. "It is a secret of the darkest. Stay—this young lady, I think, knows it."

"For Heaven's sake—" I cried, but was interrupted by my lord.

"Tell me your secret," he said calmly. "Let us know this wonderful secret."

The Doctor leaned forward over the table and whispered in his ear a few words. Lord Chudleigh started back, and gazed at him with dismay.

"So!" he cried; "it is already becoming town talk, is it?"

The Magician shook his head.

"Not so, my lord. No one knows it yet except the persons concerned in it. No one will ever know it if your lordship so pleases. I told you but to show the power of the Black Art."

"I wonder, then, how you know?"

"The Wizard, by his Art, learns as much of the past as he desires to know; he reads the present around him, still by aid of this great Art; he can foretell the future, not by the gift of prophecy, but by studying the stars."

"Tell me, then," said Lord Chudleigh, as if in desperation, "the future. Yet this is idle folly and imposture."

"That which is done"—the Sage opened the book and turned over the pages, speaking in low, deep tones—"cannot be undone, whatever your lordship might ignorantly wish. That which is loved may still be loved. That which is hoped may yet come to pass."

"Is that all you have to say to me?"

"Is it not enough, my lord? Would any king's counsel or learned serjeant give you greater comfort? Good-night. Leave, now, this young lady with me, alone."

"First read me the oracle of her future, as you have told me mine; though still, I say, this is folly and imposture."

The Magician gravely turned over his pages, without resenting this imputation, and read, or seemed to read:

Love shall arise from ashes of buried scorn:
Joy from a hate in a summer morning born:
When heart with heart and pulse with pulse shall beat,
Farewell to the pain of the storm and the fear of the Fleet.

"Good Heaven!" cried Lord Chudleigh, pressing his hand to his forehead. "Am I dreaming? Are we mad?"

"Now, my lord," said the pretended wizard, "go to the door; leave this young lady with me. I have more to tell her for her own ears. She is quite safe. She is not the least afraid. At the smallest fright she will cry aloud for your help. You will remain without the door, within earshot."

"Yes," I murmured, terrified, yet resolute. "Leave me a few moments alone. Let me hear what he has to say to me."

Then my lord left me alone with the Doctor.

When the heavy curtain fell before the door, the Wizard took off the great mitre and laughed silently and long, though I felt no cause for merriment.

"Confess, child," he said, "that I am an oracle of Dodona, a sacred oak. Lord Chudleigh is well and properly deceived. But we have little time for speech. I came here, Kitty, to see you, and no one else. By special messengers and information gained from letters, I learned, as I wrote to you (to my great joy), that this young lord is deeply enamoured. You are already, it is true, in some sort—nay, in reality—his bride, though he knows it not. Yet I might waive my own dignity in the matter, for the sake of thy happiness; and, if you like to wed him, why, nothing is easier than to let him know that his Fleet wife is dead. They die of drink daily. Roger, my man, will swear what I tell him to swear. This I have the less compunction in persuading him to do, because, in consequence of his horrid thieving, robbery, fighting, and blaspheming, his soul is already irretrievably lost, his conscience seared with a hot iron, and his heart impenitent as the nether millstone. Also the evidence of the marriage, the register, is in my hands, and may be kept or destroyed, as I please. Therefore it matters nothing what this rogue may swear. I think, child, the best thing would be to accept my Lord's proposals; to let him know, through me, that his former wife, whose name he knows not,

is dead; he may be told, so that he may remain ashamed of himself, and anxious to bury the thing in silence, that she died of gin. He would then be free to marry you; and, should he not redeem his promise and give you honourable marriage, it will be time to reduce him to submission—with the register."

Shall I confess that, at the first blush, this proposal was welcome to me? It seemed so easy a relief from all our troubles. The supposed death of his wife, the destruction of the register—what could be better?

"Be under no fear," continued the Doctor, "of my fellow Roger. He dares not speak. By Heaven! I have plenty to hang him with a dozen times over, if I wished. He would murder me, if he dared, and would carry me up to Holborn Bridge, where I could be safely dropped into the Fleet Ditch; but he dares not try. Why, if he proclaimed this marriage on Fleet Bridge (but that he dare not do), no one would believe it on his word, such a reputation has he, while I have the register safely locked up. Whereas, did they come forward to give evidence for me, at my bidding, so clear is my case, and so abundant my proofs, that no counsel could shake them."

This speech afforded me a little space wherein to collect my thoughts. Love makes a woman strong. Time was when I should have trembled before the Doctor's eyes, and obeyed him in the least particular. But now I had to consider another beside myself.

What I thought was this. Suppose the plot carried out, and myself married to my lord again. There would be this dreadful story on my mind. I should not dare to own my relationship with this famous Doctor; I should be afraid lest my husband should find it out. I should be afraid of his getting on the scent, as children say; therefore I should be obliged to hide all that part of my life which was spent in the Fleet. Yet there were many persons—Mrs. Esther, Sir Miles, Solomon Stallabars, beside my uncle—who knew all of it, except that one story. Why, any day, any moment, a chance word, an idle recollection, might make my husband suspicious and jealous. Then farewell to all my happiness! Better none at all, than to have it snatched from me in that way.

"There is a second plan," he went on. "We may tell him exactly who and what you are."

"Oh, sir!" I cried, "do nothing yet. Leave it all with me for a little—I beg, I implore you! I love him and he loves me. Should I harm him, therefore, by deceiving him and marrying him, while I hid the shameful story of the past? You cannot ask me to do that. I will not do it. And should you, against my will, acquaint him with what has happened, I swear that, out of the love I bear him, I will refuse and deny all your allegations—yea, the very fact itself, with the register and the evidence of those two rogues. Sir, which would the Court believe? the daughter of the Rev. Lawrence Pleydell, or the rascal runner of a—of yourself?"

He said nothing. He looked surprised. "No," I went on; "I will have no more deception. Every day I suffer remorse from my sin. There shall be no more. My mind, sir, is made up. I will confess to him everything. Not to-night; I cannot, to-night. And then, if he sends me away with hatred, I will never—never—stand in his way; I will be as one dead."

"This," said the Doctor, "it is to be young and to be in love. I was once like that myself. Go, child; thou shalt hear from me again."

He put on his mitre and beckoned me to the door. I went out without another word. Without stood a crowd, including Peggy Baker.

"Oh!" she cried. "She looks frightened, yet exulting. Dear Miss Pleydell, I hope he prophesied great things for you! A title perhaps, an estate in the country, a young and handsome lover, as generous as he is constant. But we know the course of true love never—"

Here my lord took my hand and led me away from the throng. Another pair went in, and the great negro before the door began again to flash his cullass in the lights, to show his white teeth, and to turn those white eyes about which looked so fierce and terrible.

(To be continued).



THE Fourth Estate is a much newer power in our colonies than even at home. Many still survive who remember the high-handed way in which the H. E. I. C. used to treat newspaper editors, and how Mr. Fairbairn, editor of the first Cape paper, was "suppressed" by Lord Charles Somerset, and had to come to England for redress. Now Mr. Saul Solomon, editor of the *Cape Argus*, is, we are told, the most influential man in the Colony—a Cape Warwick who makes Ministries though he has never been a Cabinet Minister himself; while Mr. F. R. Statham, on the strength of three years' editorship in Natal and the Cape, writes as one having authority, calls the Colonial Office the curse of South Africa, and cries down Frere, Shepstone, and Lanyon as the authors of all our trouble. His "Blacks, Boers, and British" (Macmillan) is cleverly written and full of pleasant and profitable reading, even for those who cannot altogether go along with him. We need not believe Sir Bartle Frere to have brought about the Zulu War by "choosing the lower road, and stirring up every base and bitter passion"; we need not thoroughly despise Sir Theophilus Shepstone and Sir Owen Lanyon, and believe that the latter "sneered down the independent yet patient spirit of a whole nation of Dutchmen," in order to delight in Mr. Statham's pictures of Boer and native life—his account, for instance, of the banquet at Edendale to Sir H. Bulwer by the Natal Native Horse; and to thoroughly enjoy his incisive sneers at what he calls an impossible Confederation scheme. He compares Lord Carnarvon—who, he thinks, must have been put into the office on the principle on which at cricket you put the most useless of your eleven at short leg—to a tailor who should say: "I stole this coat ready-made; and, whether you want a coat or not, you'll be kind enough to try it on; for, fit or no fit, I am unalterably determined that my name shall be stamped on the loop you hang it up by." There has been plenty of blundering in the past; plenty, too, of those black panics for which Mr. Statham makes a very telling excuse. But how about the future? "Shake hands over brave men's graves, and send out a Royal, not merely a Colonial Office, Commission, empowered to let in light on South African grievances and hopes." The Colonial Office, blowing hot and cold, playing off one interest against another, "jumping" the diamond fields, breaking faith with the Boers, is a rabbit warren of official corruption. No hope of redress from it. Don't spend any more in war, but if you have five millions to spare go in for South African railways. That's the best way to bring about the Confederation which you wish for. Of the "domestic institutions" which the Boers are thought to set so much store by, Mr. Statham says little. He points out the strange mismanagement which brought on some of the old Kafir wars, and in the Langali-bale matter he is by no means a thorough Colonist. You cannot, he asserts, have a common native policy; each tribe must be dealt with according to its antecedents and its present position. All we have hitherto done has been wrong—we have repressed the colonist's good qualities and strengthened his prejudices; we have discouraged the native from civilisation, and nurtured his evil traditions. John Bull enjoys being scolded; and Mr. Statham certainly gives it him in fine style.

Mr. F. A. Fawkes is duly impressed with the dignity and import-

ance of his subject. "A person cannot but be ennobled (he says) who thoroughly appreciates and properly uses a greenhouse." To study the stomates of pelargoniums and the scalariform ducts of ferns is a sure way of transforming a pessimist into an optimist. He even touches on astronomy, and discusses the action of the different rays on plant life, and tabulates the height of a column of water at different temperatures, and the friction in water-pipes corresponding with different velocities. Let no one, however, think that "Horticultural Buildings" (*Journal of Horticulture* Office) soars too high for use. It is thoroughly practical, dealing with everything, and throwing light on all difficulties, from the proper pitch of the roof to the question of tenants' fixtures. It is what it claims to be, and what no book has hitherto been, "a link between the architectural and horticultural interests."

The Folk-lore Society sends us "The Folk-lore Record. Vol. III. Part 2" (Nichols, Parliament Street) and Aubrey's "Remaines of Gentilisme and Judaisme" (Satchell, Peyton, and Co.). The former contains two Essex folk-tales, variants of well-known nursery stories; an amusing list of Yorkshire sayings—among them: "A Yorkshireman will bite after he is dead"; an Icelandic version of Cinderella; and an interesting paper by Mr. Lachszyma on "Folk-lore Traditions of Historical Events," illustrated chiefly from Poland and Cornwall. The report, read last June, shows a balance in hand of over 59l., and a total of 265 members. Several of these, we are glad to see, hail from India and Africa. If the Society's work is to be really valuable it must not be limited to Europe. M. Sébillot's hints on collecting and classifying folk-lore are valuable. It is not every one who has the tact, patience, and sympathy needed for the task. In Aubrey's day people were less shy; and his patience in collecting must have been exemplary. The mass of quaint customs brought together in the "Remaines" is wonderful; they are mostly West-Country—Aubrey was a Wiltshireman—and his ignorance of other parts may be measured by his "query if in Ireland or Scotland there is any resemblance of the Lares, or of any worship to 'em." Some one should find out how many of the unusual words which he gives are still in use, as *lew* and *lewth* for warm and warmth. Aubrey was a strong Churchman, hating both Romanist and Puritan. "The 2d pson of the Trinity is made of a piece of bread by the Papist, the 3d pson is made of his owne frenzy, malice, ignorance, and folly by the Roundhead. One the baker makes, the other the cobbler; and between these two the 1st pson is sufficiently abused." Sir H. Ellis gave a few extracts from the "Remaines" in his edition of Brand, and the MS. has since then been a quarry for selectors; but it quite deserved to be printed in its entirety. Mr. James Britten has done his work well; and the result is a volume that will be the delight of all real lovers of folk-lore.

Mr. R. Hunt's name does not appear in the Folk-lore Society's list; nevertheless his "Popular Romances of the West of England" (Chatto and Windus) are as valuable to the folk-lore as they are interesting to the ordinary reader. They are the work of a lifetime; and the author's connection with the Royal Cornwall Polytechnic Society brought him into constant contact with the only people among whom lingered the fast dying memories that he has rescued from oblivion. Cornwall has in Mr. Hunt's lifetime been made one with England. In his boyhood it took three days to go (by "kitterine," the only public conveyance) from Plymouth to Penzance; "droll-tellers," the descendants of the old bards, still wandered about and were everywhere welcomed. It would be in vain to seek now, even in the most outlying districts, for most of Mr. Hunt's stories; the traditions are as dead as the old Cornish language. All we can do is to be thankful that Mr. Hunt came in the nick of time to do for Cornwall more than what Souvestre did for Brittany. He assures us that none of his legends have been invented; the assurance was needful, for the tourist who finds the field of legend a total blank can hardly believe that not long ago it offered such a rich harvest. It is almost the same with the old games. Hurling still lingers at St. Colomb and St. Ives, but the Christmas play of the "guisers" is replaced by nigger minstrelsy. Mr. Hunt tells of the saints—Perron and the others from Ireland, and Neot, whose body was stolen by "the Saxon," and carried across to Huntingdon. He has plenty of fairy stories, and of course a whole set belonging to that distinctively Cornish race, the giants. We are glad that he acknowledges his obligations to Mr. W. Botterell of Penzance, whose "Stories and Folk Lore" are even more racy of the soil than his own. All reference to "the dawning rod" he purposely omits; it came in from Germany, with Queen Elizabeth's importation of skilled miners.

Mr. Parker Gillmore, author of "The Great Third Land," assures us that his "Encounters with Wild Beasts" (Allen and Co.) are all facts. It is well to know this; for that a man shot seven lions in twenty-four hours is sufficiently startling, and that two of these had leapt out simultaneously on the two horses he was riding and leading, getting killed for their pains so quickly that neither of the nags was injured, is a wonder almost passing belief. Mr. Gillmore was not the hero of this lion battue; nor yet of another, in which three lions attacked a wounded buffalo, two out of whom were despatched by the hunter. We almost lose our respect for the king of beasts till we find that his voice, when he puts his mouth to the ground, "does make the earth vibrate." Mr. Gillmore's bear stories are exciting; but of all wild beasts the Cape buffalo is the most dangerous. The American bison on the contrary dreads man; and our author humanely used this dread to rescue a bison that was sinking hopelessly down a soft place in a bog. Seeing him, the beast struggled and saved itself. His advice about always reloading before you rush on to the attack is very good. Boys, who will find the book all the more delightful because it is all true, must be warned against a few errors such as "carnivore," "laying," "a mooted point," &c.

We are glad that Mr. Keene in his "Practical Fisherman" (Bazaar Office) objects to the cruel practice of live gorge fishing. His book treats not only of tackle and tackle-making and of the capture of British freshwater fish, but of their natural history and the legends connected with them. Books equally comprehensive are so costly as to be quite beyond the means of the mass of anglers. With Mr. Keene's letterpress and his really good illustrations one almost feels Yarrell is superfluous. He is thoroughly practical, giving a list of all the flies, and reminding us that our ground-bait should always be the same as our hook-bait, and warning us that, after all, Izaak Walton was right when he said: "Angling is not to be taught by words." But he also goes in for archaeology, hazarding the question whether Adam was an angler, quoting Oppian for gorge and Aelian for fly-fishing, and Plutarch for Cleopatra's practical joke, and giving the strange mediæval baits—"Mummy and man's and cats' fat, aniseed and assafoetida and oil of worms" (what the last is we leave the reader to discover). The book is pleasant reading throughout, even for those not addicted to what Byron called "that solitary vice"; and the crucial subject of the kinship of the various salmonide is carefully gone into. It will be news to many that Thames trout run to 16 and even 23 lbs.

It is somewhat curious that Mr. John Hanlon's brief and somewhat hurried sketch (Bennet, Brothers) should be the first biography of M. Gambetta published in this country, seeing that the President forms one of the most commanding figures in the later political history of France. The little volume gives an interesting summary of its subject's career, as orator, "Dictator," journalist, and statesman, from an adulatory point of view, and shows that its author possesses considerable knowledge of the various political questions and events necessarily touched upon, the pictures of French political life being especially noteworthy.

Messrs. Marshall, Japp, and Co. have hit upon a good idea in their "Half Holiday Handbooks," the first three of which have just been

issued—rather early in the season perhaps. They refer respectively to Reigate, Dorking, and Kingston-on-Thames, places which in themselves are full of interest to the jaded townsman, and whose neighbourhoods afford some of the loveliest scenery and pleasantest walks within easy distance of the metropolis. Each handbook is illustrated with woodcuts and a map, some of the former, by the way, striking us as being superfluous. For instance, we can hardly believe there is anybody, even in London, who knows not a water-lily, a blackbird, or a lily of the valley when he sees one. Yet these very familiar objects are carefully represented in some very bad engravings. Many of the illustrations, however, are appropriate enough, and the little books are likely to become popular favourites.

"The Opium Smoker" (S. W. Partridge and Co.) is a series of twelve beautifully and delicately coloured illustrations, after drawings by a Chinese artist, and is issued, with descriptive letterpress, by the Society for the Suppression of the Opium Trade in the hope that it will be the means of opening the eyes of the public to the evils which England, by its support of that trade, is fostering. The downward course of a victim to the pernicious habit of opium smoking is graphically traced, in successive designs, from comfortable prosperity to the inevitable climax of misery, ruin, and death; and though to the English mind there is an intense comicality in these native pictures, there is to be read in them a plain, unvarnished tale of evil which cannot be lightly passed over. However, whether regarded seriously or not, the pictures are well worth buying as specimens of Chinese Art, and if the object of the Society is attained by them so much the better.

Mere mention must suffice for the following:—A fifteenth edition of Captain Burnaby's famous "Ride to Khiva" (Cassell); a twentieth edition, "thoroughly revised," of De Fivas's "French Guide" (Crosby, Lockwood and Co.); a seventh edition of the "Civil Service Geography" (same publishers), also revised and corrected to date; a new edition, revised and enlarged, of Mr. John A. Jennings's "Modern Elocutionist" (Carson, Brothers, Dublin); and an eighth edition, revised and corrected, of Joseph Payne's "Studies in English Literature" (Crosby, Lockwood, and Co.).

BLUE BLOOD UNDER A RED REPUBLIC

THE Countess de Sans-reproche belongs to the Old Nobility of France—she is a zealous Legitimist—she believes in Henri V. as she believes in the Deity who protects true aristocrats—she is horror-struck at the laxity of the times—she weeps over Gambetta as a vile and rampant Red Revolutionist—and talks with enthusiasm of her youth passed in close intimacy with Madame la Dauphine of France, and other famous women of the day. These are terrible days, to her mind,—for the old *castes* have disappeared, aristocracy is no longer supreme; a baker's son has become Marshal of France; a poor *employé* and petty scribbler is on the eve of becoming the chief of the French nation; men of the lowest birth have risen to the highest posts with remarkable rapidity; and only the other day a man who began life by playing and singing for pence on the Rhine boats was buried with regal pomp and more than regal regret at the Madeleine—and all this has occurred while Henri V. has been waving his white flag in vain at Frohsdorf!

The Countess de Sans-reproche is fervent in her belief, however, and a fine engraving of the Comte de Chambord occupies the place of honour on the walls of her little drawing-room, and is surmounted by a branch of the box-shrub that does duty for palm on Palm Sunday, and has been blessed by the Archbishop of Paris.

The Countess de Sans-reproche is poor—almost all true aristocrats are poor, she will tell you—and in this respect, undoubtedly, the Countess is more aristocratic than the proudest upholders of the Legitimist creed. Time was when she had her château in the superb Burgundian district of France, when she was the centre of a small and enlightened *coterie*, when she had, in short, all the honours that wealth can give.

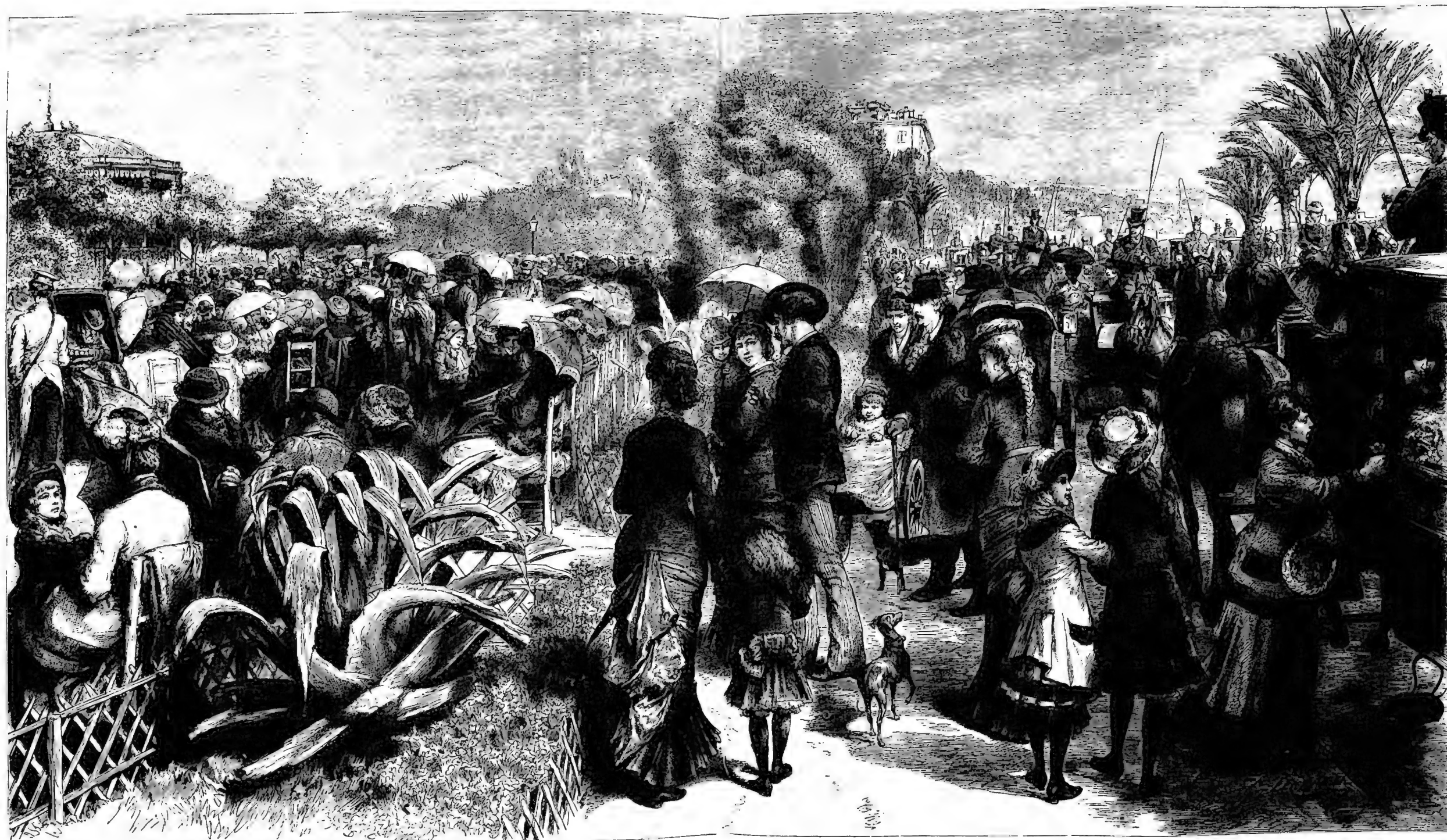
An overwhelming disaster—a dishonest and absconding manager of the family property—reduced the Countess's means to the lowest ebb. Upon an infinitesimal section of a great fortune the Countess has managed to live; and, what is more, has managed to keep her position intact. It must be remembered that in France money is less highly-esteemed than in England, and there are many proud bearers of great names who are in the direst depths of impecuniosity, and who are yet respected—and even courted—by the society of the old *régime*. The Countess and her class think nothing of money; but they think everything of good birth and good-breeding. To be ill-bred is, to their mind, infinitely worse than to be poor; whereas with us, in England, people may be as ill-bred as they choose, and society will always wink at the bad manners as long as there is plenty of money to gild them.

The Countess lives in the most fashionable and flourishing quarter of Paris; her apartment is at the back of the house, it is true, and looks on to the courtyard where the bright sun never penetrates; but the very address has a *prestige* of its own. A few steps round the corner take her to a Boulevard—a main artery—of one of the most populous quarters of work-a-day Paris; and here she may be found in the early morning, looking every inch a *grande dame*, in her faded black, cheapening a pound of grapes, or bargaining for the early strawberries.

There is an ineffable dignity about her bearing under the most trying circumstances, and there is an easy grace in her manner at all times that give her the charm that the *parvenu* cannot acquire. She is only ten years younger than the century, yet she is far more brisk and active than the women of the present day who are half her age. She has gone through many troublous times; through Government overthrows without number; through times of want, of war, and of revolt, and through private calamities that would have broken the heart and spirit of many women; yet she seems contented enough as things are, and you do not hear her bemoaning past splendour, or trading upon bygone advantages. She is interested in all the events of the day, and her knowledge of social and political current topics would shame many a younger woman of responsible position and dignity. She reads her paper—a party organ, of course—every evening, and has many wise and trenchant remarks to make on the conduct of the political heroes of the hour, invariably closing her comments with a distressed exclamation as to the way the world is going.

The Countess's mode of life is simple enough; but it is a mode of life that would be impossible in England. To begin with, a woman of her rank, with her exceedingly small income, would be ridiculous among us—would inevitably lose *caste*—and the Countess would prefer death to this. She would endure martyrdom sooner than abate one jot of her dignity; she would suffer many hardships rather than relinquish one of her rights. Her pride of birth—which is, after all, infinitely better than the pride of wealth to which we English bow down—while infinitely lower than the pride of work which few people acknowledge—her pride of birth prevents her feeling many of the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune that would bitterly distress meaner mortals.

As I have said, her mode of life is simple enough. A middle-aged woman, who has been with her for some years, serves as a retainer, and performs all the domestic offices which the Countess conceives necessary. The expenses of the establishment are of the very humblest; in fact, it is a marvel to many friends that the Countess should have contrived to exist, and should still exist, on so slender an income. The banquets are of the lightest; but they are served with every possible handsome accompaniment, and the table linen is of the finest, the silver is massive, the china is of a quality that would claim for it a place on English dining-room or drawing-



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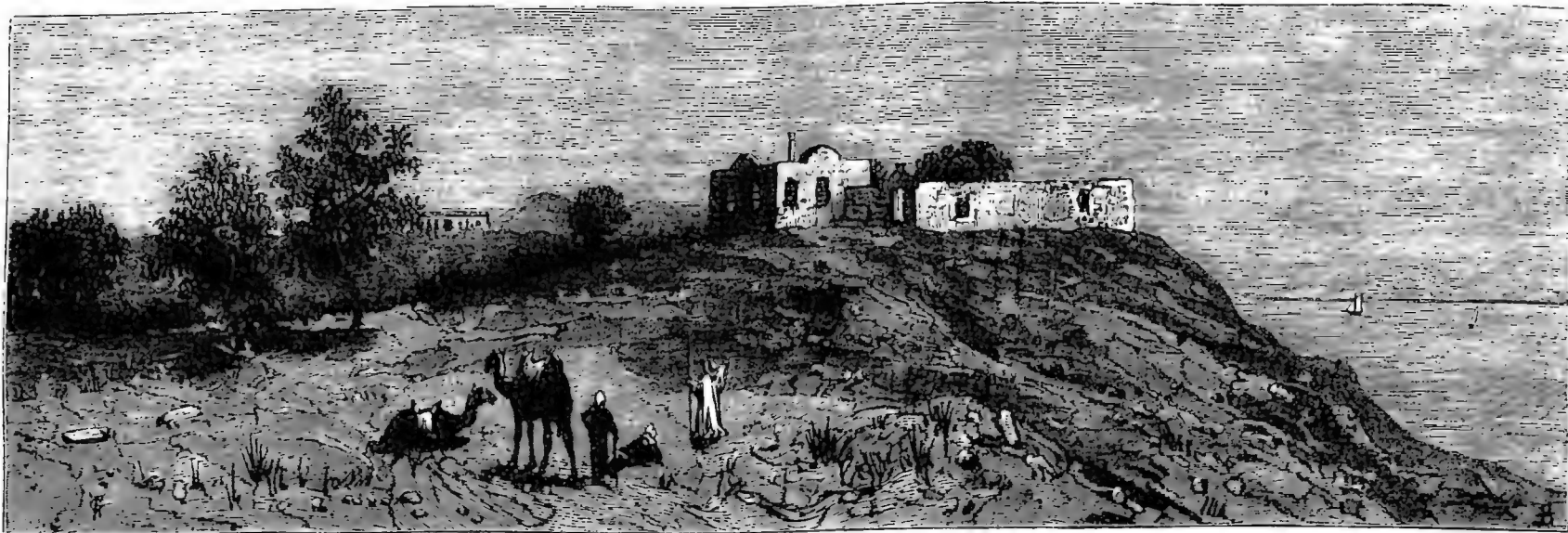
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THE HOUSE OF SIMON THE TANNER, AT JAFFA, SYRIA

gives some interesting facts which he ascertained at the latter place, and in which he was corroborated by Mr. Gätke, another ornithologist of European fame.

On the little island of Heligoland the number of resident species of birds is probably not more than a dozen, and yet so vast is the influx of migrating birds at certain times that 1,500 larks have been caught there in a single night. Few birds seem to migrate by day. Their departure is wholly a question of wind and weather. At Heligoland the direction in which the travellers fly is due east and west. They appear to dislike a directly favourable or directly contrary wind, preferring it from the side. The weather is as important a factor in emigration as the wind. Thus at Heligoland birds do not rest at all in ordinary weather, and when they do alight on the island or lighthouse seem to drop, as it were, directly

from the sky. Their travels are supposed to take place at a high elevation, beyond the reach of vision, and to be directed by sight and not by a blind instinct. Therefore emigration on a large scale is only observed on a dark and cloudy night. Their landmarks are obscured at such a time, and then the wanderers descend to earth. Probably there is great mortality among migratory birds. Many lose themselves, and on dark nights the stream of emigration suddenly stops when the moon rises.

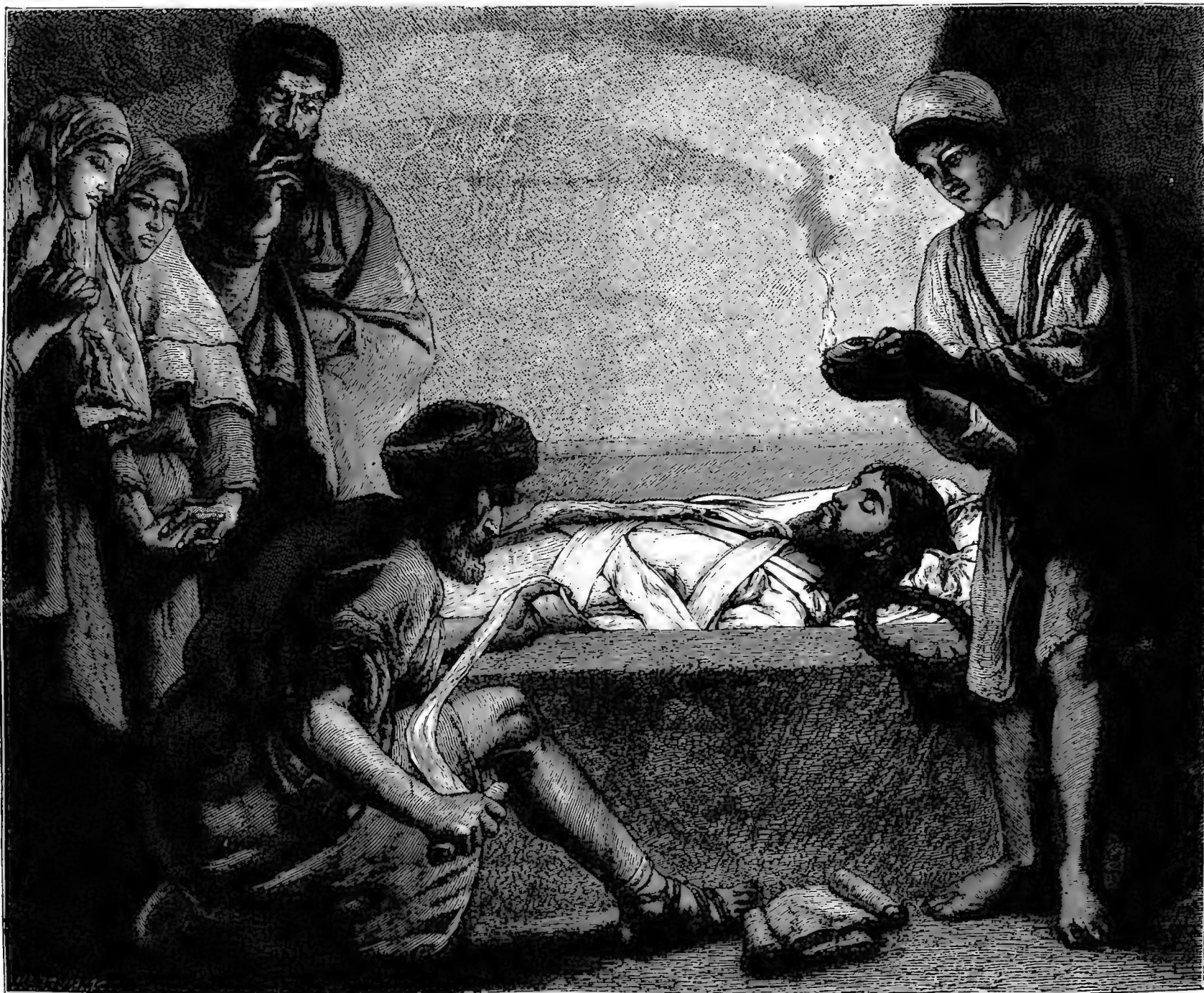
The period of migration of each species lasts about a month, and the natives know by the wind and weather exactly when to expect the flocks, which they shoot, snare, and net for sustenance.

In view of these facts Mr. Seebohm observes: "The conclusion I came to after my Heligoland experiences was that the desire to migrate was an hereditary impulse, to which the descendants of

migratory birds were subject in spring and autumn, which has, acquired during the lapse of ages a force almost, if not quite, as irresistible as the instinct to breed in spring. On the other hand, the direction in which to migrate appears to be absolutely unknown to the young birds in their first autumn, and has to be learnt by experience."

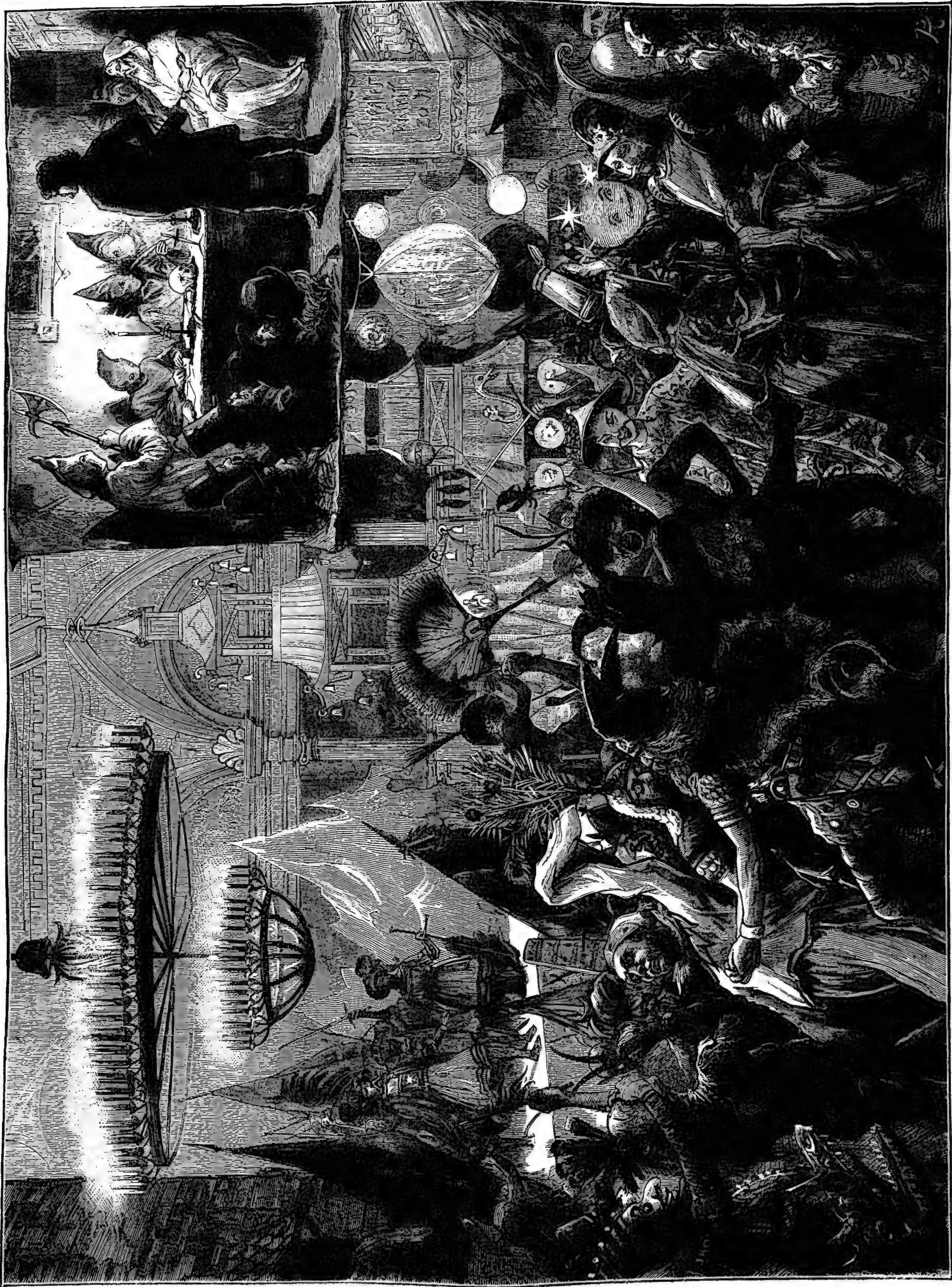
The old-fashioned believer in instinct might fairly ask here what did primitive birds do to continue their kind before "the instinct to breed in spring" was acquired? Swallows, at all events, have migrated, as they now do, for as long a period as our knowledge of their history extends, as the celebrated Rhodian swallow-songs testify. These and similar questions we now leave amateur ornithologists to study at leisure in their gardens during the immigration of spring songsters.

M. G. WATKINS



"THE ENTOMBMENT OF CHRIST
FROM THE PICTURE BY CHARLES VERLAT

GIVING OUT THE INVITATIONS



AN ARTISTS CARNIVAL BALL

Exeter Hall. It was convened by the National Temperance League, and its purpose was to receive as many provincial mayors as chose to respond to the invitation, and that they might speak in public as to their experience of the influence of total abstinence. The Lord Mayor of York presided, and there were present the Mayors of Leeds, Huddersfield, Gateshead, Reading, Wakefield, Scarborough, Poole, Oswestry, and Bootle. The Mayor of Leeds made it known that twenty-seven provincial mayors were total abstainers; and in testifying to the enormous social advantage arising from an avoidance of alcoholic stimulant, he mentioned as a fact that in Leeds alone fifty policemen now met all the town's requirements, whereas at one time it was found necessary to employ 400 constables. If this happy change is any degree owing to Leeds being blessed with a teetotal mayor it speaks volumes for the value of official example. If it is actually true that seven-eighths of the Leeds police have been discharged in consequence of their services being no longer required since the town has been in great part converted to teetotalism, no stronger evidence could be adduced in support of the theory that strong drink is synonymous with crime. Let Sir Wilfrid Lawson produce unimpeachable evidence of the statement made by the Mayor of Leeds when he moves in the House for Local Option, and the odds are not heavy against his scoring a victory.

PROVIDENT DISPENSARIES.—Sir Charles Trevelyan presided a few days since at a meeting of the Metropolitan Provident Medical Association, the object of which was to establish a branch of the Society at Pimlico. It was stated that by means of a company 50,000*l.* is being raised to provide and fit as many buildings as may be required for the whole of London. As regards its operations, the scheme is not confined to contracting with poor people on reasonable terms for the supply of medical attendance and medicines. A thoroughly qualified staff of nurses will be at the service of all who require such aid, and it may be presumed, at a rate within their means. There can be no question that such an association, properly managed, would be a boon to the classes to which it appeals, but its establishment must be a work of time. It may be quite true that under the present system patients who seek outdoor advice and medicine at our hospitals are sometimes kept waiting for six or seven hours, but the feeling is strong in the minds of the lower orders—and it is very far from unjustifiable—the advice they seek is the best that can be obtained, and that to wait a few hours for it is worth their while. It is not so much that they desire to save doctors' fees as that they have a higher opinion of the medical ability engaged at such hospitals as St. Thomas's and Guy's than of that procurable in their own immediate neighbourhood. Not that it could be much wondered at if money-saving were a main inducement with working folk of but small means, and never so little to spare as when there is sickness in the house. As was pointed out by a physician writing in a daily paper recently, the sums charged by shopkeeping chemists and druggists for the making-up of doctors' prescriptions is often preposterously high, and he instanced a case where eighteenpence was charged a working man for the making up of a small bottle of stuff, the component parts of which cost less than one penny. The only articles that can be obtained at a reasonable rate of the average chemist are black draughts and pills, and, as a rule, both medicines are kept in stock to suit all comers, irrespective of age, sex, or constitution.



THE SEASON.—The persistent easterly winds have traversed England like flame, blackening and shrivelling the fresh young blades of grass, and the new unfolding lilacs of the garden walk. The almond blossom has been torn from the tree, the Lent lilies beaten down or rent out of symmetry by the ruthless currents of keen air. No barley has yet struggled through the desiccated ground, while narcissi and other April flowers are very backward almost everywhere. But for these recent winds the outlook would be fair. The autumn wheat has stood the season's rigours fairly well, trees are in vigorous flow of sap-life, hedges in sheltered nooks are green enough to show what the whole country would have been but for the eastern gales. The land is in good order, and fair, mild weather, with moderate rain, will soon cause English country scenery to wear a smiling face.

ENGLISH WHEAT has advanced in value to forty-four shillings, a price not previously attained this year. The dry weather, favourable to threshing and delivery in good condition, has partly caused the rise, but the inquiry is steady and genuine while offerings are small. Last year's crop was clearly gravely deficient, and farmers may well be firm holders of their small remaining stocks.

PROTECTION FOR LANDLORDS.—We wonder whether English landlords will emulate the conduct of the Rhenish landowners. These worthies have compiled a Black Book, which contains a detailed list of the various tenants the different contributory landlords have become acquainted with. Tenants of an irreclaimable sort are put in one division, tenants who can pay but prefer fraud or evasion in a second, tenants actually in straits but neither irreclaimable or fraudulent form a third class, which may be compared to Dante's Purgatory, the other divisions representing the same poet's Inferno. Tenants are said to find this work instructive reading, and several "irreclaimables" have applied for transference to the merely "purgatorial" class.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.—The two great Shows of 1881 will be those held at Derby and at Tunbridge Wells. The Bath and West of England Society, which holds the latter Show, takes within its range of visits all the Southern and Western counties and towns from Worcester to Canterbury. This insensibly, as it were, drives the Royal Society North; to Carlisle last year, to Derby this. If the Royal Society meets at Reading in 1882 it will be within the other Society's frontiers, and their interests can hardly fail to clash. This brings us to a suggestion. Why not have one Royal Society with two great divisions, the first division holding a show yearly in some place South of a line from Worcester to London, the other division holding a yearly Show north of the same line?

WILD BIRDS.—The Protection Act continues to be stringently enforced. There have been several new convictions, one of a London poultry dealer, who exposed for sale fifty wild ducks. This Act is likely to lead to the extension of an import trade in foreign game. We have already noticed a great increase in the number of capercaillies, or northern turkeys, on sale.

REDUCTION IN THE VALUE OF LAND.—Farms in Bedfordshire, re-let from Lady Day last, have frequently been at a great concession from previous rentals. No case, however, has been so striking as the Amptill assessment case, where a farm put at 36*s.* has been reduced to 15*s.* an acre, the tenant still claiming that the value is over-estimated.

A SCHOOL OF GARDENING.—This is the title of a new enterprise of which the Crystal Palace will be the local centre. The school is designed to afford students of the art of landscape gardening an opportunity of systematically mastering its details and of obtaining practical instruction thereon. A two-years' course is proposed, and this would embrace every form of floriculture.

IRISH EJECTMENTS.—Actions for ejectment crowd the Courts in Ireland. In the West the number of such actions is something

extraordinary. Alarmed by the Land Bill owners will endeavour to make a clearance before it can become law, and there may be warm work in Ireland between this and Michaelmas.

RAINFALL.—The rainfall of the first three months of the present year has been 7.21 inches against 5.22 in the first three months of 1880, 6.68 in 1879, 4.50 in 1878, 7.41 in 1877, 8.15 in 1876, and 5.14 in 1875. On the whole, the first quarter of the present year has been by no means deficient in humidity, albeit the last few weeks of March were dry—very dry.

CHEESE.—Why is English country cheese so scarce in London shops? Of course there can be nothing of a reason in the fact that while freight for a ton of cheese from New York to London is thirty shillings, our railway monopolists charge fifty shillings for bringing the same weight from Chester to London.

FOREIGN GRAIN AND EAST WINDS.—On Saturday last, as the result of the persistency of east winds, we had the curious fact to record of there being no foreign grain cargoes off the English coast. Wheat during the week had come in very sparsely, and no fresh maize had arrived for ten days. These occurrences, we should state, are as rare as a thunderstorm in December or a frost in June.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE has at last been fairly got under, and the outbreak will be recorded as having raged from Martinmas, 1880, to Easter, 1881. Within this period it is estimated to have cost English farmers the sum of two millions sterling in uncompensated losses.

KINGTON CHURCH, near Worcester, one of the most picturesque little churches in England, wants repair—urgently. The sum of 150*l.* would put things right, and any one of culture who could give this aid might have the rarer satisfaction of seeing that nothing was hurt in the reparation, or any artistic feelings outraged by injudicious interference with the parts still sound.

CHURCH LANDS.—The Ecclesiastical Commissioners announce a timely reform. The commission of 5 per cent. hitherto allowed on sums expended on farm buildings and improvements is to be in future discontinued, and to be covered by a commission of 5 per cent. allowed upon the rents arising from lands and premises.

CORN RETURNS.—In a long and able address to the Hampshire Chamber of Agriculture, recently delivered, Mr. Beach, M.P., disclosed the difficulties of dealing with this subject, and stated he was forced to conclude that neither of the Bills now before Parliament was well considered or worthy of acceptance.

AFTER THE BANQUET which was given in Mr. Parnell's honour at Cork, on Sunday last, Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., and Mr. John O'Connor, Secretary of the Local Land League, slept at the hotel, and it is stated that during the night they were both robbed of all the money they had about them.

FEEDING FARM HORSES.—In cold wet weather, and when very hard work is doing, fourteen pounds of oats per day is not too much, but ten pounds, and the rest made up with hay, or seven pounds of oats and about five of maize, is preferable as a general use. The addition of a pound of beans is occasionally valuable. Lighter horses will want less of course, a lighter horse for work about the farm will do on five pounds of oats and three of maize daily. The increased use of maize of late years is very striking, but we would not venture to recommend its being made the main element of food.



THE "FREIHEIT" PROSECUTION.—Herr Most has now been committed for trial without bail, the charge against him being altered from its general terms of "inciting to murder," and more closely defined as "inciting to murder the Emperor of Germany, Alexander III. of Russia, and others." At the last examination the translation of an article found set up in type, but not printed, was read in Court, the objection to the reception of it as evidence as opening up a new charge being overruled by Sir J. Ingham, who said that it threw light on what had gone before; and, if it did open a new charge, the defendant might be indicted on that in addition to the first charge. Mr. Bale, the printer, gave evidence to the effect that he printed about 1,300 copies weekly, and a second edition of 500, but declared that he did not understand German, and knew nothing of the nature of the articles which appeared in the issue of March 19. Mr. Bennett, who appeared for the defendant, contended that, in order to sustain the charge, there should be a direct proposal by one person to another to murder a third person; and said that it would have been more dignified in the Government to have left such an obscure paper alone. Herr Most made a statement in German to the effect that he should "have volumes to say" in answer to the charge; but, as "it is never good or wise to waste powder before the battle begins," he wished to justify himself only at the trial, particularly as the charge was not meant for him alone, but was an attack upon the liberty of the Press of England, which he hoped no twelve men in London would be found to sanction.—On Saturday handbills were distributed at many working men's clubs in the metropolis offering a reward of 500*l.* for any one who would bring to the Social Democratic Club, Rose Street, Soho, "the letter which Prince Bismarck wrote to Earl Granville entreating the English Government to prosecute the *Freiheit*." On Sunday a Socialist meeting was held at Peckham Rye "to protest against the arbitrary conduct of the Government." Some of the speakers defended the assassination of the Czar; but their harangues were so ill-received by the listeners, that at last the police had to interfere to protect them from violence.

THE SPIRITUALISTIC FRAUD.—After an eight days' trial Mrs. Fletcher has been convicted. Her counsel called no rebutting evidence, but only some witnesses as to character, among whom was the Rev. Maurice Davies and Mr. Desmond Gerald Fitzgerald, the electrician, who said that she had the reputation of being "polished, disinterested, and high-principled." Mr. Justice Hawkins, in summing up, directed the jury to find a verdict of not guilty on that count in the indictment which alleged conspiracy to steal, as there was no evidence to support it; that alleging "witchcraft" he quashed as bad in law, and also that concerning the making of the will, pointing out that it was no crime to induce a person to leave his property in any particular way, though the will might be set aside on the ground of undue influence. On the points raised for the defence that a wife could not be convicted of "conspiring" with her husband, as they were both supposed to be "of one mind," he said that the objection was not good in law, and remarked that, though in this case the point did not arise, it would be revolting to suppose that a woman who had coerced her husband into crime should go free whilst the husband was punished. He left to their decision only the counts alleging false pretence and conspiracy to defraud, and on these, after deliberating for about an hour and a half, they returned a verdict of guilty. His lordship said he did not see how they could have come to any other conclusion, but though they were right in finding that she had not acted under the coercion of her husband in a sense which would relieve her of legal responsibility, he could not help thinking that she had at first been in some degree induced by him to embark upon the fraudulent scheme. This consideration and other circumstances of the case, including the fact that the plaintiff had regained the greater portion

of the property, made him refrain from passing a heavier sentence than one of twelve months' hard labour.

A JUDGE'S WILL.—The proverbial inability of lawyers to draw up their own wills in a proper and efficient manner has been once more illustrated by the action which has just been heard in the Chancery Division in relation to the will of the late Sir Anthony Cleasby, Baron of the Court of Exchequer. His personal estate was very large, and the investments had been carefully selected; but it was found that he had not given sufficient authority to the trustees to deal with certain shares which he held in public companies; and the Vice-Chancellor therefore made an order for the administration of the estate by the Court.

THE POST OFFICE AND THE EDISON TELEPHONE COMPANY having ended their litigation the Attorney-General has obtained from the High Court of Judicature permission to vary the decree restraining the Company from continuing business, so that, the Crown monopoly being admitted, telephonic communication may be carried on under licences granted by the Postmaster-General. The arrangement applies also to the Bell telephone system, the right to which has been purchased by the Edison Company.

A QUESTION OF IDENTITY.—The police have just arrested a man who, under the name of Powell, has for some years been carrying on business as an omnibus proprietor at Lambeth, the charge against him being that he is a convict named Leeson, who some fifteen years ago was sentenced to penal servitude for a burglary at the Manchester Post Office, when 10,000*l.* was stolen; and who had subsequently escaped from custody. The only direct evidence is that of the detective inspector who arrested Leeson on that charge; but if Powell be not the same man it is awkward for him that his arms should be tattooed in a precisely similar fashion to that in which Leeson's were ornamented. It appears that after Powell's arrest the police searched his home without troubling to get a search warrant, and when his counsel asked how they dared so to violate a domicile, Inspector Callaghan replied that he "had simply done his duty."

IS A STEAM TRICYCLE A LOCOMOTIVE? was the knotty question propounded at the Greenwich Police Court the other day. The magistrate seemed to have been in doubt, for he said that, though he was inclined to think the machine was a locomotive within the meaning of the Act, he did not think it came within the "mischief" of the Act. He therefore imposed a nominal penalty of one shilling in each of the five summonses, granting leave for the statement of a case for the decision of the Superior Court.

WHERE TRADE MARKS are concerned there is of course a good deal in a name, as appears from a recent decision of the Lords Justices of Appeal. The litigants were bottled beer merchants, and their respective labels "Bulldog Bottling" and "Terrier Bottling" seemed distinctive enough to the Master of the Rolls, who, therefore, refused an injunction, but the Lords Justices on hearing that the plaintiffs' beer had got the name of "Dog's head Beer," thought that the defendants' beer might possibly be confounded with it, and accordingly reversed the decision.



THE TURF.—Nottingham has the unenviable distinction of being the only place which holds racing carnival this week. Whatever may be said against the Turf generally, we make bold to say that not one out of every fifty of its followers would regret the total suspension of their favourite pursuit during the six days preceding Easter. The Nottingham Meeting, however, will not be without its *vates sacer*, and to him we will leave it.—James Potter, steeplechase jockey and trainer, still lies in a sad state from the accident he sustained at Bromley. Even should he recover, it is almost hopeless that he will be able to resume his previous occupation.—News comes from America that the Louisiana Jockey Club will run several races by electric light at their next meeting.—Some little sensation has been created at Newmarket by the arrival of three Russian horses, accompanied by a Russian trainer, all well-bred, but whether descendants of the famous steed to which Mazeppa was bound we cannot say. They are engaged in some of our great three-year-old races, but will require a lot of work before they will be able to show themselves to advantage on an English race-course.

FOOTBALL.—On Saturday last, at the Oval, there was a grand gathering to witness the final match for the Association Cup between the Old Etonians and Old Carthusians. The play was fast, but exceedingly scientific all round; but public opinion was eventually justified by the victory of the Old Charterhouse boys by three goals to none.—The final match in the Berks and Bucks Association Challenge Cup was decided in favour of Marlow, who beat the Remnants, with "all the Hawtneys," by one goal to love. The game was played on Saturday last at the Maidenhead Cricket Club Ground in the presence of more than a thousand spectators.—Before a vast assemblage at Blackburn the Native Rovers beat the Sheffield Wednesday by seven goals to three, a result eminently satisfactory to the former, who had received a severe drubbing from their antagonists in the competition for the English Cup.—The return match (Association) between Staffordshire and Cheshire, at Stoke-on-Trent, ended in a draw.—On Monday evening, at the Freemasons' Tavern, Major Marindin, R.E., in the chair, and before a large and enthusiastic company, a testimonial, consisting of some handsome silver and a cheque for 330*l.*, were presented to Mr. C. W. Alcock, the Secretary of the Surrey Cricket Club, as a testimonial for his zeal and energy in furthering the Association game. He may be truly called the father of modern football, and to his pen and personal efforts we are mainly indebted for the universal re-establishment of this excellent and popular winter game. No testimonial was ever better deserved.

AQUATICS.—Some remarks on the recent Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race will be found on another page.—At present no final arrangement has been come to in reference to the talked-of match between Trickett and Boyd.

ATHLETICS.—At Lillie Bridge on the day before the Boat Race the Oxford and Cambridge sports were decided. The Hundred Yards, the Hurdles, the One and Three Miles Races were scored by the Dark Blues, who took five events against Cambridge's four, and marked seven seconds against Cambridge's two. The total score at these competitions since their commencement in 1864 is Oxford 81 and Cambridge 79. Owing to the great discourtesy with which many representatives of the Press were treated, the *Standard*, the *Daily Telegraph*, and several leading sporting papers declined to report the proceedings. Of late years the bearing and general assumption of University athletes and their Undergraduate friends have called forth many unpleasant remarks. They seem inclined to forget that even if they did not favour the metropolis with annual exhibitions of their sports, aquatic and otherwise, the earth would probably still continue to revolve on its axis, our national sports and pastimes would continue to exist, and society generally to adhere together. Many modern Undergraduates fall far short of the olden type of scholars and gentlemen. They should remember that if it were not for the despised Press the public in general would take but little interest in their doings.

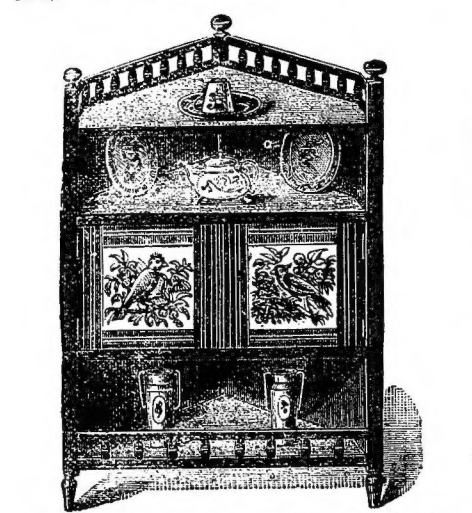
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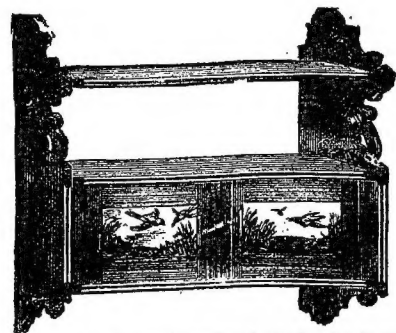
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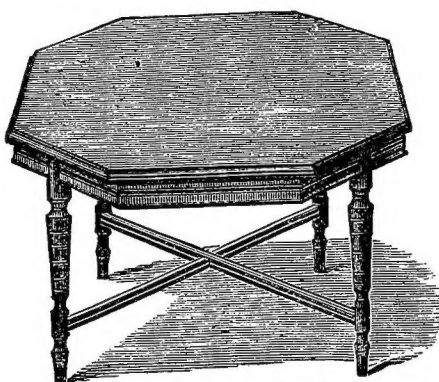
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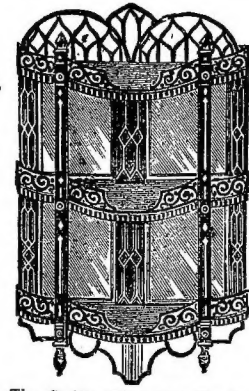
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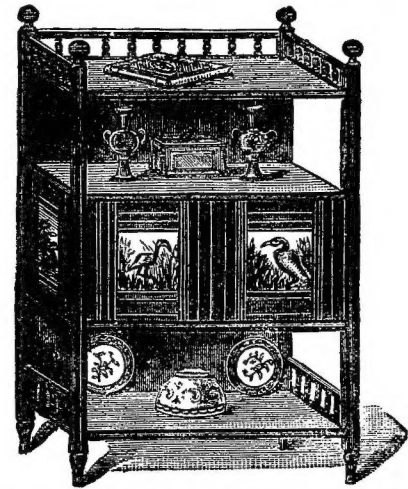
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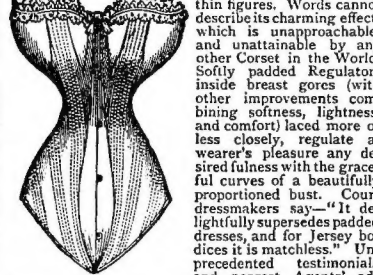


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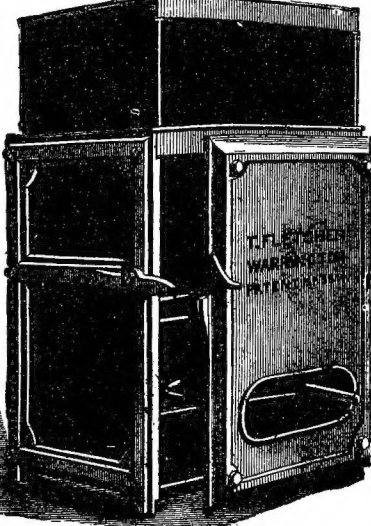
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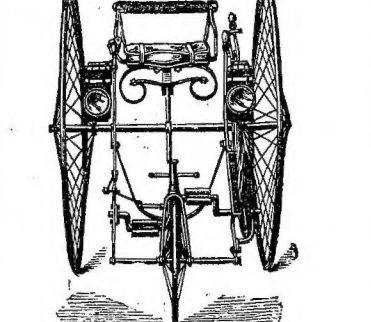
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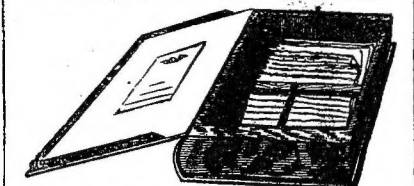


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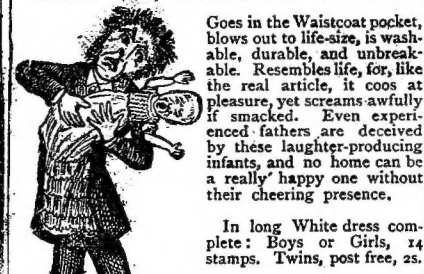
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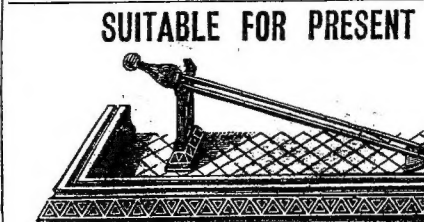
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